

Introduced by Senator Margett

February 23, 2007

An act to amend Section 4491 of the Public Resources Code, relating to forest practices.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 849, as introduced, Margett. Forest practices: burning of brush-covered lands.

Under the Wildland Fire Protection and Resources Management Act of 1978, any person, firm, or corporation that owns or controls brush-covered land within a state responsibility area may apply to the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection for permission to burn the brush from those lands. Existing law provides that cooperation by the department with any person desiring to use prescribed burning as a means of converting brush-covered lands into forage lands, as specified, is declared to be a public purpose and requires the department to provide certain advisory service to applicants for a burning permit.

This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes in those provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 4491 of the Public Resources Code is
- 2 amended to read:
- 3 4491. (a) Cooperation by the department, as provided in this
- 4 article, with any person desiring to use prescribed burning as a
- 5 means of converting brush-covered lands into forage lands, which

1 has as its objective prevention of high intensity wildland fires,
2 watershed management, range improvement, vegetation
3 management, forest improvement, wildlife habitat improvement,
4 and maintenance of air quality, or any combination thereof, is
5 declared to be for a public purpose.

6 ~~This~~

7 (b) *This* article shall be administered by the director or, if
8 responsibility therefor is delegated by the director, by the chief of
9 a county fire department in a county contracting with the
10 department pursuant to the provisions of Section 4129.

11 ~~In~~

12 (c) *In* furtherance of the provisions of this article, the department
13 shall provide advisory service to applicants for permits as to
14 precautions to be taken by the applicant to prevent damage to the
15 property of others by reason of the prescribed burning, and shall
16 provide standby fire protection, to ~~such~~ *the* extent as personnel,
17 fire crews, and firefighting equipment are available.