

HB22-1132



Regulation & Services For Wildfire Mitigation

ASSIGNED COMMITTEE: Energy & Environment

THE ISSUE

Currently in the State of Colorado, landowners who wish to conduct a controlled burn on their property, don't have to notify local fire authorities. Some departments have had the experience of being called out when a fire escapes from a well-intentioned landowner. By the time the fire department arrives, the fire may have caused damage to structures outside of the control burn area. This can put both the landowners and firefighters at risk while also threatening local animals, wildlife and landscape.

IF PASSED

- The individual who is conducting the controlled burn must notify their local fire authorities.
- The local fire authorities can then determine the need to be on standby or if firefighter personnel should be present to address fire mitigation concerns.

HB22-1132 will require those conducting the controlled burn to notify local fire authorities to allow for greater awareness in the event that the controlled burn may become unmanageable. This will allow for better communication and coordination among citizens and firemen to better navigate the situation before the fire is being conducted. These efforts will improve response time for firefighters in the event of an escaped controlled burn and will greatly reduce miscommunication and improve fire mitigation.

Amendments

Amendment L. 001 provides funding for the Memorial to honor Captain Darcy Stallings. The Mobile Driver Simulator Unit will improve firefighter training across Colorado for years to come.

Amendment L. 004 allows this bill to deconflict statutes addressing local control, prescribed burns, controlled burns and subordinate definition of these types of burns in current statute.

HB1132 - Sponsors: Rep. Holtorf, Rep. Ortis and Senator Liston