



HB23-1018

LONG TITLE: Concerning incentives to promote the timber industry in Colorado, and, in connection therewith, creating an internship program in the Colorado state forest service and creating a state income tax credit for the purchase of qualifying items used in timber production and forest health.

SHORT TITLE: Timber Industry Incentives

SPONSORS: Rep. Lynch/Senator Simpson

COMMITTEES: House Agriculture, Water & Natural Resources Committee

PURPOSE OF THE BILL: To provide incentives to the timber industry to hire interns and expand employment on the ground to better manage forest and mitigate wildfire.

PROPONENTS OF THE BILL: Forest health advocates

POTENTIAL STAKEHOLDERS: Water providers, water users, local governments, timber industry, schools

Is this bill necessary this year? There is no deadline.

BACKGROUND: These measures have been discussed multiple times in the wildfire matters review committee. There is a shortage of forest management personnel on the ground and beginning with an internship program is thought to be one incentive. Tax credits for purchase of equipment used in timber harvest and processing is also believed to incentivize the timber industry.

How does the bill change current law? It does not change law.

Does the bill affect the prior appropriations system? No

How is the bill implemented? The State Forest Service must promulgate policies, procedures, and guidelines for administering the internship program.

Fiscal Impact: There is no fiscal note.