



HB0192

Public utilities-wildfire mitigation and liability limits.

Sponsored By: Representative(s) Larson, JT, Campbell, E, Lawley, Thayer and Wylie and Senator(s) Barlow, Dockstader, Jones and Schuler

AN ACT relating to public utilities; requiring public utilities to prepare and submit wildfire mitigation plans; specifying procedures for the submission and review of wildfire mitigation plans; specifying how costs associated with wildfire mitigation plans may be recovered; specifying limits for liability and damages for public utilities related to wildfires; requiring rulemaking; specifying applicability; and providing for effective dates.

1/15/2025 Bill Number Assigned
1/16/2025 H Received for Introduction
1/21/2025 H Introduced and Referred to H09 - Minerals
2/5/2025 H09 - Minerals:Recommend Amend and Do Pass 8-0-1-0-0

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Representative(s) Campbell, Heiner, Knapp, Larson, Lawley, Schmid, Tarver, Webber

Excused: Representative Riggins

Ayes 8 Nays 0 Excused 1 Absent 0 Conflicts 0

2/5/2025 H Placed on General File

HB0192HS001/ADOPTED

Page 6-after line 21 Insert and renumber as necessary:

"(xii) Input from the Wyoming state forestry division of the office of state lands and investments, an association representing Wyoming rural firefighters and any other appropriate federal, state or local fire entity."

Page 8-after line 21 Insert and renumber as necessary:

"(b) An electric utility and a landowner with an alleged wildfire related claim shall negotiate in good faith before any landowner files a civil action against the electric utility. During negotiations, an electric utility shall respond to a landowner not later than ninety (90) days after receipt of the landowner's submission of itemized damages."

Page 9-line 1 Delete "(b)" and insert "(c)".

Page 10-line 1 Delete "(c)" and insert "(d)".

Page 10-lines 13 and 14 Delete entirely and insert "damages unless the plaintiff's claim is based on the injury or death of any person in a wildfire;". HEINER, CHAIRMAN

HB0192HW001/ADOPTED

Page 7-line 9 After "receipt" insert ", unless the commission deems it is necessary to continue the implementation of the wildfire mitigation plan for a longer period of time and the commission has entered an order confirming the

continuance and stating the facts making the continuance necessary". LARSON, JT

2/10/2025 H COW:Passed
2/11/2025 H 2nd Reading:Passed

HB0192H3001/FAILED

Page 10-lines 12 through 14 Delete entirely, including the House standing committee amendment (HB0192HS001/A) to these lines, and insert:

"(iii) A plaintiff may recover noneconomic losses, including pain and suffering, emotional distress and loss of enjoyment of property, if the plaintiff demonstrates by clear and convincing evidence that the electric utility:

(A) Engaged in gross negligence or willful misconduct in violation of industry safety standards; or

(B) Failed to take reasonable steps to prevent a wildfire when a known hazard existed.". LIEN

HB0192H3002/FAILED

Page 10-after line 19 Insert and renumber as necessary:

"(e) An electric utility shall recover not more than eighty percent (80%) of the total costs of an approved wildfire mitigation plan through rate adjustments to consumers. Not less than twenty percent (20%) of the costs shall be borne by the electric utility to ensure financial accountability and incentive-based risk management.". LIEN

2/12/2025 H 3rd Reading:Passed 52-8-2-0-0

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Representative(s) Angelos, Banks, Bratten, Brown, L, Byron, Campbell, E, Campbell, K, Chestek, Clouston, Connolly, Davis, Eklund, Erickson, Filer, Geringer, Guggenmos, Haroldson, Harshman, Heiner, Hoeft, Jarvis, Johnson, Kelly, Knapp, Larsen, Larson, Lawley, Locke, Lucas, Mccann, Neiman, Nicholas, Ottman, Pendergraft, Posey, Provenza, Rodriguez-Williams, Schmid, Sherwood, Singh, Storer, Strock, Styvar, Tarver, Thayer, Washut, Webb, Webber, Wharff, Williams, Winter, Wylie

Nays: Representative(s) Allemand, Andrew, Bear, Brady, Brown, G, Lien, Wasserburger, Yin

Excused: Representative(s) Riggins, Smith

Ayes 52 **Nays** 8 **Excused** 2 **Absent** 0 **Conflicts** 0

2/13/2025 S Received for Introduction

2/14/2025 S Introduced and Referred to S07 - Corporations

2/21/2025 S07 - Corporations:Recommend Amend and Do Pass 4-0-1-0-0

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Senator(s) Boner, Case, Dockstader, Landen

Excused: Senator Steinmetz

Ayes 4 **Nays** 0 **Excused** 1 **Absent** 0 **Conflicts** 0

2/21/2025 S Placed on General File