

**Department of Planning and Budget
2001 Fiscal Impact Statement**

1. Bill Number HB1875

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed
Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. Patron Deeds

3. Committee Conservation and Natural Resources

4. Title Open burning.

5. Summary/Purpose:

Allows prescribed burns conducted to (i) control exotic and invasive plants, (ii) establish and maintain wildlife habitat, or (iii) manage natural heritage resources throughout the entire day during the period February 15 through March 1. The current law limits open burning to between 4:00 p.m. and midnight from February 15 through April 30. However, in order to be exempted from the current law, the burn has to be conducted in accordance with a prescribed burning plan approved by the State Forester prior to February 1 and managed by a certified burn manager. The bill also gives the State Forester the authorization to revoke approval of a prescribed burn if hazardous fire conditions exist on the day of a planned burn and to revoke the certification of any prescribed burn manager who violates the provisions of the section.

6. No Fiscal Impact

7. Budget amendment necessary: No

8. Fiscal implications: None

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: Department of Forestry

10. Technical amendment necessary: No

11. Other comments: None

Date: 01/10/01 / mup

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cc: Secretary of Commerce and Trade

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