

BILL SUMMARY
1st Session of the 57th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB 870
Version:	CS
Request Number:	8524
Author:	Rep. Newton
Date:	4/24/2019
Impact:	ODAFF: Anticipated first year negative fiscal impact of \$61,492.

Research Analysis

The CS for SB 870 limits liability for landowners, county officers and employees using customary approaches to fight or prevent wildfires on private land.

Prepared By: Tricia Hines

Fiscal Analysis

The measure relates to wildfire prevention and the powers and duties of the Forestry Division of the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry. Currently the Forest Rangers that would advise the County employees are all stationed in eastern Oklahoma. This means that the measure would add salary, benefits, travel and equipment costs for the above employees. See first year breakdown numbers provided by ODAFF below:

Salary & Benefits:

- Three (3) Forest Ranger III (L23C) @ \$262.97/day (salary + benefits)
- Estimated 40 days in first year X 3 Forest Ranger IIIs = 120 personnel days
- 120 personnel days X \$262.97/day = **\$31,556.40**

Per Diem

- Lodging (120 nights @ \$119/night) = **\$14,280**
- Meals & Incidentals (120 days @ \$55/day) = **\$6,600**

Equipment & Misc.

- 150 miles/day X 120 days = 18,000 miles
- 18,000 miles @ 0.58/mile = **\$6,055.20**
- Misc. Equipment - **\$3,000**

Total Projected First Year Costs - \$61,491.60

Prepared By: Jenny Mobley

Other Considerations

Per ODAFF: Estimated costs to the agency could potentially double or triple the second and third year, respectively. However, the workload for designating control lines for the County Commissioner District Employees could eventually be transferred to Forestry Services' Fire Management Modules (if funded and established at a future date) would be located in central and western Oklahoma. In the agency's current designated Fire Protection Area in eastern Oklahoma, the agency foresees a big demand for this type of service since the landowners in the Protection Area receive full-time fire protection services from ODAFF.

