

Session 126 - (2025-2026)

H 4539 General Bill, By McGinnis, Holman and Hiott

Summary: Penalties for Illegal Fires

A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 16-11-150, RELATING TO BURNING LANDS OF ANOTHER WITHOUT CONSENT, SO AS TO INCREASE THE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS; BY AMENDING SECTION 16-11-170, RELATING TO WILFULLY BURNING LANDS OF ANOTHER, SO AS TO INCREASE THE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS; BY AMENDING SECTION 16-11-180, RELATING TO NEGLIGENTLY ALLOWING FIRE TO SPREAD TO LANDS OR PROPERTY OF ANOTHER, SO AS TO INCREASE THE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS; BY AMENDING SECTION 48-35-55, RELATING TO FIRE REGULATION EXEMPTIONS, SO AS TO SUSPEND THE EXEMPTIONS WHEN THE GOVERNOR HAS DECLARED AN EMERGENCY IN CONNECTION WITH FOREST FIRES OR THE STATE FORESTER DECLARES A PROHIBITION; AND BY AMENDING SECTION 48-35-60, RELATING TO PENALTIES FOR FIRES ON CERTAIN LANDS, SO AS TO INCREASE THE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF CHAPTER 35, TITLE 48.

05/08/25 House Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 44)

05/08/25 House Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs (House Journal-page 44)