



**Fiscal Note**

**H.B. 261**

2023 General Session  
 Fire Related Amendments - As Amended  
 by Snider, C.



**General, Income Tax, and Uniform School Funds**

JR4-4-101

	Ongoing	One-time	Total
Net GF/ITF/USF (rev.-exp.)	\$(6,200)	\$(800)	\$(7,000)

**State Government**

UCA 36-12-13(2)(c)

Revenues	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
General Fund	\$0	\$(3,500)	\$(3,500)
Wildland Fire Suppression Fund	\$0	\$(1,791,600)	\$(1,791,600)
New Account Created By Bill (FN Only)	\$0	\$1,791,600	\$1,791,600
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$(3,500)</b>	<b>\$(3,500)</b>

Enactment of this legislation could increase revenues to the newly created Wildland-urban Interface Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation Fund by \$1,791,600 ongoing beginning in FY 2024. An equivalent amount of revenue would be reduced from the Wildland Fire Suppression Fund. This legislation could also reduce revenue to the General Fund by \$3,500 each year from lower fees and fines associated with changing closed fire season violations from a class B to a class C misdemeanor.

Expenditures	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
General Fund	\$0	\$2,700	\$2,700
General Fund, One-time	\$800	\$0	\$0
New Account Created By Bill (FN Only)	\$0	\$1,791,600	\$1,791,600
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$800</b>	<b>\$1,794,300</b>	<b>\$1,794,300</b>

Enactment of this legislation may cost the Department of Government Operations \$800 one-time in FY 2023, and \$100 ongoing beginning in FY 2024, to create the Wildland-urban Interface Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation Fund and administer the necessary end of year transfers. The agency has stated that they can absorb these costs. This legislation may cost the Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands (FFSL) \$2,600 ongoing beginning in FY 2024 to administer grants and post notices on their website. These costs can be absorbed by the agency. Finally, enactment of this legislation could cost FFSL \$1,791,600 ongoing from the Wildland-urban Interface Prevention, Preparedness, and Mitigation Fund starting in FY 2024 for prevention activities and grants to fire departments.

	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
<b>Net All Funds</b>	<b>\$(800)</b>	<b>\$(1,797,800)</b>	<b>\$(1,797,800)</b>

**Local Government**

UCA 36-12-13(2)(c)

Enactment of this legislation could reduce revenue to Local Governments by \$2,000 each year from lower fees and fines associated with changing closed fire season violations from a class B to a class C misdemeanor.

**Individuals & Businesses**

UCA 36-12-13(2)(c)

To the extent that individuals violate provisions of the legislation relating to closed fire seasons, their imposed fines would decrease from \$680 to \$340 per violation, for an estimated savings of \$5,500 in aggregate.

**Regulatory Impact**

UCA 36-12-13(2)(d)

Enactment of this legislation could result in a small reduction in the regulatory burden for Utah residents or businesses.

**Performance Evaluation**

JR1-4-601

This bill creates a new program or significantly expands an existing program. For a list of questions lawmakers might ask to improve accountability for the proposed program, please see: <https://budget.utah.gov/newprogram>

**Notes on Notes**

Fiscal notes estimate the direct costs or revenues of enacting a bill. The Legislature uses them to balance the budget. They do not measure a bill's benefits or non-fiscal impacts like opportunity costs, wait times, or inconvenience. A fiscal note is not an appropriation. The Legislature decides appropriations separately.