

---

**ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 2228**

---

**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2020 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Springer, Dent, Ramos, Griffey, Ryu, Appleton, Leavitt, Ormsby, Wylie, and Goodman

Prefiled 12/11/19. Read first time 01/13/20. Referred to Committee on Housing, Community Development & Veterans.

1 AN ACT Relating to early deployment of state fire service  
2 resources; and amending RCW 43.43.960.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.43.960 and 2019 c 259 s 1 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in  
7 this section apply throughout this subchapter.

8 (1) "All risk resources" means those resources regularly provided  
9 by fire departments, fire districts, and regional fire protection  
10 service authorities required to respond to natural or man-made  
11 incidents, including but not limited to:

- 12 (a) Wild land fires;
- 13 (b) Landslides;
- 14 (c) Earthquakes;
- 15 (d) Floods; and
- 16 (e) Contagious diseases.

17 (2) "Chief" means the chief of the Washington state patrol.

18 (3) "Fire chief" includes the chief officer of a statutorily  
19 authorized fire agency, or the fire chief's authorized  
20 representative. Also included are the department of natural resources

1 fire control chief, and the department of natural resources regional  
2 managers.

3 (4) "Jurisdiction" means state, county, city, fire district,  
4 regional fire protection service authority, or port district units,  
5 or other units covered by this chapter.

6 (5) "Mobilization" means that all risk resources regularly  
7 provided by fire departments, fire districts, and regional fire  
8 protection service authorities beyond those available through  
9 existing agreements will be requested and, when available, sent in  
10 preparation of, or response to, an emergency or disaster situation  
11 that has ((exceeded)) or is predicted to exceed the capabilities of  
12 available local resources. During a large scale emergency,  
13 mobilization includes the redistribution of regional or statewide  
14 risk resources to either direct emergency incident assignments or to  
15 assignment in communities where resources are needed. All risk  
16 resources may not be mobilized to assist law enforcement with police  
17 activities during a civil protest or demonstration, or other exercise  
18 by the people of their constitutionally protected First Amendment  
19 rights, or other protected concerted activity, however, fire  
20 departments, fire districts, and regional fire protection service  
21 authorities are not restricted from providing medical care or aid and  
22 firefighting when mobilized for any purpose. When the chief receives  
23 a request for a predeployment mobilization of risk resources to an  
24 emergency or disaster based on a wildland fire, the chief shall  
25 consider both the available public risk resources and the resources  
26 available through the master list of qualified wildland fire  
27 suppression contractors maintained by the department of natural  
28 resources pursuant to RCW 76.04.181, and shall retain and deploy the  
29 resources that will provide the most effective and expeditious  
30 response.

31 When mobilization is declared and authorized as provided in this  
32 chapter, all risk resources regularly provided by fire departments,  
33 fire districts, and regional fire protection service authorities  
34 including those of the host fire protection authorities, i.e.  
35 incident jurisdiction, shall be deemed as mobilized under this  
36 chapter, including those that responded earlier under existing mutual  
37 aid or other agreement. All nonhost fire protection authorities  
38 providing resources in response to a mobilization declaration shall  
39 be eligible for expense reimbursement as provided by this chapter  
40 from the time of the mobilization declaration.

1        This chapter shall not reduce or suspend the authority or  
2 responsibility of the department of natural resources under chapter  
3 76.04 RCW.

4        (6) "Mutual aid" means emergency interagency assistance provided  
5 without compensation under an agreement between jurisdictions under  
6 chapter 39.34 RCW.

7        (7) "State fire marshal" means the director of fire protection in  
8 the Washington state patrol.

--- **END** ---