



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives

Representative David Cook (R-8)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Governor Signs Representative Cook's Bill into Law Improving Accountability of State Forestry

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – State Representative David Cook today applauded the enactment of [HB 2580](#), bipartisan legislation he sponsored directing the State Forester to perform all management and administrative functions delegated to Arizona by the federal government relating to wildfire prevention, mitigation and suppression activities, and obtain and maintain signed copies of delegation of authority agreements entered into by the state. It was signed by Governor Ducey on April 13.

When a fire burns on both state and federal land, a delegation of authority agreement must be signed prior to the federal government taking control of fire suppression efforts. These agreements outline state and federal roles and responsibility for managing wildfire activity at all stages.

“The need for this law came to light while chairing hearings of the bipartisan Ad Hoc Committee on Wildfire Management that looked into recent wildfires,” said Representative Cook. **“We learned not all of the delegation of authority agreements were kept on file and available when we requested them from the state. The law that I sponsored is meant to ensure that, going forward, agreement documents are properly signed, maintained, and made readily available by the state for public viewing in a timely manner.”**

David Cook is a Republican member of the Arizona House of Representatives serving Legislative District 8, which includes areas of Pinal and Gila Counties. Follow him on Twitter at @RepDavidCook.

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