**South Carolina General Assembly**

126th Session, 2025-2026

**H. 4265**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Reps. McGinnis, Hager, Bradley, Bauer, Mitchell, Yow, Bailey, Erickson, Schuessler, Crawford, Hardee, Hartnett, Gibson, Brittain, Guest, Neese, Bustos, B.L. Cox, Hewitt, Caskey, Gilliam, Atkinson, Bowers, Forrest, Gagnon, Hartz and J.E. Johnson

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Introduced in the House on March 27, 2025

Currently residing in the House Committee on **Judiciary**

Summary: Penalties for Fires on Certain Lands

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

3/27/2025 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 19](h:\hj\20250327.docx))

3/27/2025 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([House Journal‑page 19](h:\hj\20250327.docx))

View the latest  [legislative information](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=4265&session=126&summary=B)  at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[03/27/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/4265_20250327.docx)

A bill

TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS 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; AND BY REPEALING SECTION 48‑35‑55 RELATING TO FIRE REGULATION EXEMPTIONS.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Section 48‑35‑60 of the S.C. Code is amended to read:

Section 48‑35‑60. Any person violating the provisions of this chapter may be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, may be fined not less than one thousand dollars but not more than two hundred five thousand dollars, or imprisoned for not more than thirty daysone year, or both, for a first offense. For any second or subsequent offense, a fine of not less than five hundredtwo thousand dollars but not more than twenty‑five thousand dollars, or imprisonment for not more than sixty daysthree years, or both may be imposed in the discretion of the court. “Subsequent offense,”, as used in this section, shall mean an offense committed within ten years of a previous offense.

SECTION 2. Section 48‑35‑55 of the S.C. Code is repealed.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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