

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure
Vote:	5 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Atkinson, Burdick, Girod, Starr, Beyer
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Edwards
Prepared By:	Richard Berger, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	5/19

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Finds and declares that Oregon Department of Forestry communications infrastructure meets policies and standards mandated by Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and is compatible with infrastructure utilized by other federal and state agencies and private departments primarily responsible for responding to wildland fire emergencies. Requires Department to continue to partner with, advise and seek out shared efficiencies with other public safety agencies. Establishes immediate conversion of Department's communications infrastructure for compatibility with Oregon Wireless Inoperability Network is not necessary considering large investment already made and high cost of conversion; incompatibilities that would be caused with infrastructure of other federal and state agencies and private partners; and Department's infrastructure conforms to policies and standards mandated by FCC.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Department not a traditional first responder except in cases of wildfires
- Department allowed to continue work with other agencies on an interagency wireless communication system
- Landowner concern over fire suppression

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Oregon Wireless Interoperability Network (OWIN) follows a 2005 mandate from the Oregon Legislative Assembly to consolidate the state's four existing major radio networks and create a statewide "system of systems" for mission-critical public safety communications.

House Bill 3466 A declares that the Department of Forestry's communications infrastructure meets policies and standards mandated by Federal Communications Commission and is compatible with other federal and state agencies and private departments, so the immediate conversion of the Department's communications infrastructure for compatibility with OWIN is not necessary.