



**OREGON FIRE DISTRICT
DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION**
EDUCATION • COORDINATION • LEGISLATION

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February 7, 2012

Sen. Brian Boquist, Chair
Senate Committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs
347 State Capitol
900 Court St NE
Salem, OR, 97301

RE: SB 1559 (HB 4051)

Dear Senator Boquist:

The Oregon Fire District Directors Association (OFDDA) was formed in 1950 and serves the elected public officials of over 200 Fire Protection Districts throughout Oregon, all Special Districts formed under ORS Chapter 478. The five-member governing boards are responsible for the financial and management oversight of the Districts

Funding of 911 centers is a priority issue for fire districts across the state. This session, a bill was introduced in the form of HB 4051 which would allow 911 tax revenues to be distributed to 911 jurisdictions. The Board of Directors of the OFDDA voted at its January 21 meeting to unanimously support this effort. The Board believes that the distribution method outlined in this proposal represents a cleaner, more direct approach and will result in less paperwork, less accounting and less bureaucracy.

The provisions of HB 4051 have been drafted as amendments to SB 1559, now before the Senate Committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs. We strongly urge you to adopt these amendments and pass the bill out the Senate Floor.

On behalf of the Oregon Fire District Directors Association, we appreciate your positive disposition of this legislation and look forward to participating in the hearing process at the appropriate time. If the OFDDA can assist the Committee in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Genoa Ingram
Executive Director