

Date: 03-21-15

To: State of Oregon Senate and Legislature

Re: HB 3455

First, I would like to thank you for taking the time to listen and contemplate to the opinion which I hope to express from this letter. I am confident, as the governing body for the state of Oregon that your time is valuable and limited. My desire is to instill a greater sense of need and urgency as it relates to the above mentioned legislation.

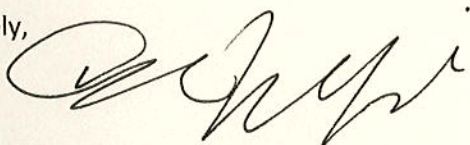
Second, although I am a small business owner in the city of Salem currently, I do possess some first-hand knowledge and experience as it relates to ATV's and their recreational use. Back in 2004, my wife Brenda and I helped some friends for a summer who then owned Spinreel Dune Buggy Rental located off Hwy 101 on Spinreel Rd. just north of Coos Bay, OR. Over the course of six months we were there, I became very familiar with the diverse terrain of the Oregon National Dune and Recreation Area. Not only did I supply assistance to the riders who rented from us, but would also assist private riders as well. ATV use and recreation can be fun for the whole family, but it can also be extremely dangerous. As you know, the ONDRA is quite large and the need to help individuals who were lost or broke down would occur on a daily basis.

Third, I also witnessed and was contacted by riders who had friends, family, or loved ones involved in ATV accidents. While the majority of these were minor in nature, there was a significant number that would require emergency services and EMT to be present to administer first-aid to the individuals. I remember the EMT's appreciation as we would meet them at the State Park across from Spinreel to guide them over and through the maze of dunes to the victims in need of medical assistance. However, I also remember their frustration as they would not always be able to reach the victims in their emergency vehicles because emergency vans and ambulances are not equipped to be driven in most places of the ONDRA.

Fourth and finally, I want to voice my sincere support for HB 3455 and its' ability to provide financial support to emergency services as well as representation on the ATV Advisory Committee. In my opinion, placing a fire district and EMS representative onto the ATV Advisory board is absolutely necessary. I believe adequate terrain transportation is a NECESSITY, when the welfare of the recipient is mandatorily predicated by time lost if the emergency services and EMT's do not have the ability to reach the victims quickly. PASS this legislation and make sure emergency services have the equipment it needs to provide adequate services!

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Chris H. Wylie



## La Grande Rural Fire Protection District

10200 S. McAlister Rd, Island City, OR 97850

Ph. (541) 963-6895

[www.lagranderruralfire.com](http://www.lagranderruralfire.com)

April 6, 2015

### **Re: SUPPORT OF HB 3455 AND THE INCLUSION OF FIRE AND EMS ON ALLOCATION BOARD**

Dear Sir or Madam;

As a member of the fire service for 27 years, I have seen the expectations of service change in all aspects of the job. At my earliest recollection, when I heard a siren I thought there was a 'fire' and that firefighters were on their way to extinguish it, but today's expectations are completely different and the jobs being performed have changed to meet the demands of the public. We now respond to 75%-80% medical related emergencies and I do not see that trend changing.

My fire district covers 135 square miles in Northeast Oregon and that expands even more when figuring in special rescue operations that we also provide. ATV use is growing in popularity and I support getting our youth away from a television and pursuing more outdoor activity. The ATV recreational area in our county is growing in popularity and so are the potential demands for services. We provide EMS and Rope Rescue services in conjunction with our local Search and Rescue agency to the surrounding mountains and recreational use areas and have found it at times difficult to reach patients in our everyday Fire/EMS trucks. As budgets shrink and demands for services increase, we are always seeking new avenues to of obtaining needed equipment as are many other fire districts.

I support HB 3455 as I can see the benefits of having Fire and EMS representation on the allocation committee. I thank you for your time and efforts on this matter.

Respectfully Submitted

Larry Wooldridge

Fire Chief, La Grande RFPD





**Yamhill Fire Protection District**

PO Box 249 – 275 South Olive St.

Yamhill, Oregon 97148-0249

Phone: (503) 662-4653

Fax: (503) 662-3740

<http://www.yamhillfpd.org>

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*Serving the people of the Yamhill Fire Protection District since 1896*

Brian Jensen  
Fire Chief / EMT  
Yamhill Fire Protection District  
PO Box 249  
Yamhill, OR 97148  
(503) 662-4653  
[brian@yamhillfire.org](mailto:brian@yamhillfire.org)

The Yamhill Fire Protection District covers 72 square miles in the North end of Yamhill County. The District includes several square miles of the Coast Range. Over the last 28 years that I have been with the Yamhill Fire Protection District, I have personally been involved in hunting accidents, fire's, ATV accidents, and Aircraft crashes in these remote areas. By having the tools and trained personnel to respond quickly and safely to these events for not only the patients, but also the Responders is the difference in a positive or negative outcome. A quick response with proper equipment and trained Fire Fighters/EMT's can save an injured citizen from dismemberment, disability and even death.

I would like to encourage our state representatives and state senators to CO-Sponsor HB 3455 relating to the allocation of ATV grant funds derived from the sale of ATV permits for our EMT and Fire Districts. I want to urge the legislature to pass this legislation so our EMT and Fire Districts can receive the adequate funds to offer sufficient resources when accidents and fires occur. Concerns are greater due to the extreme nature of this recreational sport and the ever increasing size, weight, and carrying capacity of the OHV being produced and used. We encounter instances of severe injury and multiple patient situations. Due to the remote locations where these accidents occur, we need to be able to quickly and adequately traverse the difficult terrain to address the severity of the situation.

This HB would place EMT & Fire District representatives as voting members on the ATV Advisory Committee. Currently, we are inadequate in response time and resources for accidents and fires started in the wild terrain where ATV sport enthusiasts recreate. Having active representation on the board would help us acquire the funds necessary for protecting Oregon's ATV retreaters and forests. In addition, many rural fire districts have "mutual aid agreements" with areas that have Off-Highway funding for ATV recreation and routinely get called for assistance; they will also become eligible for grant proposals. We support HB 3455 because it's a common sense solution to keep Oregonians and our environment safe.

Thank you for your attention and feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Dedicated to the service of Oregon,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Jensen".

Brian Jensen  
Fire Chief/EMT



April 3, 2015

## Yamhill County Fire Defense Board Supports HB 3455

The Yamhill County Fire Defense Board is comprised of 10 Fire and EMS Agencies serving Yamhill County. They include Amity, Carlton, Dayton, Dundee, Lafayette, McMinnville, Newberg, Sheridan West Valley and Yamhill Fire Districts/Departments. Our Emergency Providers protect 720 sq. miles from the Coast Range to the Willamette River.

We would like to encourage our State Representatives and State Senators to CO-Sponsor HB 3455 relating to the allocation of ATV grant funds derived from the sale of ATV permits for our Fire and EMS Districts. I want to urge the legislature to pass this legislation so our Fire and EMS Districts can receive the adequate funds to offer sufficient resources when accidents and fires occur. Concerns are greater due to the extreme nature of this recreational sport and the ever increasing size, weight, and carrying capacity of the OHV being produced and used. We encounter instances of severe injury and multiple patient situations. Due to the remote locations where these accidents occur, we need to be able to quickly and adequately traverse the difficult terrain to address the severity of the situation.

This HB would place Fire and EMS District representatives as voting members on the ATV Advisory Committee. Currently, we are inadequate in response time and resources for accidents and fires started in the wild terrain where ATV sport enthusiasts recreate. Having active representation on the board would help us acquire the funds necessary for protecting Oregon's ATV retreaters and forests. In addition, many rural fire districts have "mutual aid agreements" with areas that have Off-Highway funding for ATV recreation and routinely get called for assistance; they will also become eligible for grant proposals. We support HB 3455 because it's a common sense solution to keep Oregonians and our environment safe.

John Stock, Yamhill County Fire Defense Board Chief  
Dundee, Or  
503-554-8442

# JUNCTION CITY

1755 Juniper Street  
Junction City, OR 97448



# FIRE DEPARTMENT

Office: (541) 998-2022  
Fax: (541) 998-8084

April 6, 2015

Dear Legislators,

As Fire Chief of Junction City Rural Fire Protection District (JCRFPD) a small rural fire protection agency located in the Willamette Valley it is sometimes difficult to keep up with the increased demands for service that growth brings be it permanent or seasonal. Quite often in our district as in other small districts in Lane, Linn and Benton County we are tasked with providing fire and ems services to the increased population without an increase in funding for the special training or equipment needed to do so. I believe that HB 3455 is a step in the right direction to allow emergency services to have a voice in the growth that directly impacts our ability to provide the high level of services that is expected when an emergency happens.

While HB 3455 will not directly affect JCRFPD I support the agencies that are in need of increased funding to handle the influx of people that our beautiful Oregon beaches and dunes bring to their districts every spring, summer and fall. I highly encourage our state representatives and senators to sponsor HB 3455 that would place EMS and Fire service representatives on the ATV Advisory Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carl Perry', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Carl Perry

Chief Junction City Rural Fire Protection District



# Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue

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2625 Highway 101 North  
Florence, OR 97439-9702  
(541) 997-3212

Marvin Tipler  
Operations Fire Chief  
Siuslaw Fire District

As an Operations Fire Chief, I know firsthand the effects that result from injury or mechanical malfunctions that result in fires in remote areas. The ability to respond quickly with adequate equipment and resources is the single greatest factor in obtaining optimal results in life threatening and wildfire situations. In these cases, a quick response can save an injured citizen from dismemberment, disability and even death. Likewise, a quick response to a fire alert can result in safely putting out a wildfire before massive resources are employed to deal with a dangerous fire disaster.

I would like to encourage our state representatives and state senators to Co-Sponsor LC 3538 relating to the allocation of ATV grant funds derived from the sale of ATV permits for our EMT and Fire Districts. I want to urge the legislature to pass this legislation so our EMT and Fire Districts can receive the adequate funds to offer sufficient resources when accidents and fires occur. With the extreme nature of this recreational sport, we encounter instances of severe injury and accidental fires. Due to the remote locations where these accidents occur, we need to be able to quickly and adequately traverse the difficult terrain to address the severity of the situation.

This LC would place EMT & Fire District representatives as voting members onto the ATV Allocation Grant Board. Currently, we are inadequate in response time and resources for accidents and fires started in the wild terrain where ATV sport enthusiasts recreate. Having active representation on the board would help us acquire the funds necessary for protecting Oregon's ATV retreaters and forests. In addition, many rural fire districts have "mutual aid agreements" with areas that have Off-Highway funding for ATV recreation and routinely get called for assistance; they will also become eligible for grant proposals. We support LC 3538 because it's a common sense solution to keep Oregonians and our environment safe.

Thank you for your attention and feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Dedicated to the service of Oregon,

Marvin Tipler, OFC



# NORTH BAY FIRE DISTRICT

Office of the Fire Chief

February 20, 2015

RE: SUPPORT OF INCLUDING FIRE AND EMS TO ATV ALLOCATION BOARD

Dear Sir or Madam,

The fire service has experienced many changes throughout the years. The biggest changes are the services that fire agencies provide and how we provide those services. Traditionally firefighters were just that, firefighters; the folks who showed up to put the fire out. Today fire agencies not only respond to fires, but medical emergencies and technical calls for service. Departments that provide medical response find themselves allocating well over 80% of their time to EMS responses and providing basic and advanced life support measures.

I represent a fire district of 30 square miles on the Oregon coast. North Bay Fire responds to ATV accidents in and around the Dunes NRA, as well as public and private lands. We also provide mutual aid to the Hauser Fire District. Hauser provides a sand response and patient transport to north Coos County. Funding to Staff and equip this type of a response can be challenging, as most departments are volunteer and are under-funded. Departments are not only providing emergency medical services, but face the challenges and logistics that go along with providing service. It is not uncommon to have our recreating population grow by the thousands depending on weather and the time of year. The impact is felt by all agencies that respond.

The addition of fire and EMS representation on the ATV Allocation Board appear to be the two remaining pieces that have been left out of the puzzle. Fire and EMS representation could potentially benefit the patients we treat, who in most cases require well trained responders, an urgent response, specialized equipment, rapid treatment and transport to the hospital. All of the aforementioned are performed by the fire and EMS personnel who respond.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of LC 3538, which would include Fire and EMS representation on the ATV Allocation Board.

Respectfully,

James W. Aldrich  
Fire Chief



# Oregon Fire Chiefs Association

## Statement on HB 3455

March 25, 2015

The Oregon Fire Chiefs Association supports the concepts in HB 3455. This bill would add representation on the ATV Allocation Board for fire and EMS representation. Due to the ever-changing world, Fire & EMS find themselves more often in response to ATV accidents and incidents in remote areas and incidents due to ATV recreation. To meet those responses, it is important to have that voice at the table when considering how to best allocate resources. HB 3455 opens that conversation and the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association looks forward to working further on this bill.





# Winchester Bay Fire & Rescue

P.O. Box 1006  
Winchester Bay, OR  
97467  
**Racing the Reaper**

Thomas "Scott" Anderson, OR-EMT-I  
Fire Chief  
Winchester Bay Rural Fire Protection District  
P.O Box 1006  
Winchester Bay, OR  
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(541) 271-3808  
Wbfire21@gmail.com

As a Fire Chief /EMT in a rural fire district I have responded to, assisted, with and preplanned for response into life threatening injuries, and other request for assistance in rural, dunes and other off highway response areas. We need the ability to respond as quickly and safely as possible with sufficient manpower to make a difference. Quick response with properly trained and equipped Fire fighters EMT's often is the difference in the success of the outcome. In these cases, a quick response can save an injured citizen from dismemberment, disability and even death.

I would like to encourage our state representatives and state senators to Co-Sponsor LC 3538 relating to the allocation of ATV grant funds derived from the sale of ATV permits for our EMT and Fire Districts. I want to urge the legislature to pass this legislation so our EMT and Fire Districts can receive the adequate funds to offer sufficient resources when accidents and fires occur. Concerns are greater due to the extreme nature of this recreational sport and the ever increasing size, weight, and carrying compactly of the OHV being produced and used. We encounter instances of severe injury and multiple patient situations. Due to the remote locations where these accidents occur, we need to be able to quickly and adequately traverse the difficult terrain to address the severity of the situation.

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Thank you for your attention and feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Dedicated to the service of Oregon,

Thomas Anderson, OR-EMT I  
Fire Chief



# Western Lane

## Ambulance District

*Excellence In Service  
To The Community*

February 19, 2015

Representative Jim Weidner  
District 24 - Yamhill  
900 Court St. NE, H-387  
Salem, Oregon 97301

**IN THE MATTER OF LC 3858; LETTER OF SUPPORT:**

**INCREASING MEMBERSHIP OF ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE SUBCOMMITTEE**

**EXPANDS PURPOSES FOR USE OF MONIES IN ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE ACCOUNT TO INCLUDE  
PAYMENT FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES RELATED TO ALL TERRAIN VEHICLES**

Dear Representative Weidner,

Western Lane Ambulance District located in Florence, on the Oregon Coast is the primary Emergency Medical Service provider for the Western Lane County. We have in our Ambulance Service Area considerable area where public from all over Oregon, the United States and Canada travel to recreate on our portion of the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area that extends throughout the majority of the western boundary of our district.

We respond to medical and traumatic emergencies that occur on the sand and often these patients are located in inclement locations where the available equipment that we have, create very technical response and transport difficulties to effectively manage patient care. We take patient care as a priority whereby most of our staff are Critical Care Paramedics trained to handle these difficult and often precarious patient presentations. As a representative of Western Lane Ambulance District we would like to encourage bipartisan support from Oregon State Representatives and Senators for LC 3858, to form a bill that would be passed into Oregon Law.

Western Lane Ambulance recognizes the value of visibility by increasing membership of the All-Terrain Subcommittee with all parties involved proactively would lessen injury and death on the sand dunes and also promoting the recreational possibilities for all Oregonians and its patrons to safely enjoy for generations to come.

Western Lane Ambulance also recognizes the value of placing Emergency Medical Services Providers onto the ATV Allocation Board that would enable funding to enhance EMS providers

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with proper vehicle and safety equipment to safely reach and treat those medical and traumatic injuries while on the sand.

Thank you for your time and effort for this cause. LC 3858 definitely is a great start to keeping Oregonians safe for all to enjoy. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at your earliest convenience at (541) 997-9614.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles O. York". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Charles York, EMT-P  
WESTERN LANE AMBULANCE DISTRICT