

March 23, 2017

Representative Paul Evans, Chair
House Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Evans and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony regarding House Bill 3075 which provides an income tax credit for firefighters who provide volunteer services to rural fire protection districts or fire departments.

Volunteer fire fighters are a significant and important part of Oregon's Fire Service. Individuals give their time, energy, skills and abilities to the protection of their communities all over our state without the expectation of compensation. However, there is a cost to each and every person who offers these critical services. We would like to thank Representative Hack for bringing attention to ways we can help with recruitment and retention of volunteers for the fire service through HB 3075. We remain committed to engaging in conversation on recruitment and retention and support HB 3075 as a piece of that discussion.

We thank you for your consideration of HB 3075.



Les Hallman
Assistant Chief, Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue
President, Oregon Fire Chiefs Association