

**Lori Stegmann**  
Multnomah County Commissioner  
Representing East County, District 4



Dear Chair Evans and members of the Veteran and Emergency Preparedness Committee,

I want to share my appreciation and support of HB 4152, which will support the mission of the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) as they continue to serve our highest public safety needs in Multnomah County.

This summer, I was honored to see our Multnomah County Sheriff's Office as well as the Hood River Sheriff's Office leap into action as the Eagle Creek Fire raged in the Columbia River Gorge.

Sheriff's deputies, volunteers and search/rescue teams were among the first responders on the scene, working tirelessly to inform and protect residents. They made sure homes, livestock and our communities were safe during the course of area evacuations. Working door-to-door, our network alerted residents with new developments, helping them evacuate and transition safely to our emergency shelter and other temporary living arrangements. During the course of these first few days, I met with residents who had left with only their loved ones and a vehicle of their most prized belongings. The Incident Command Team seamlessly ran cross-jurisdictional efforts to keep residents in the area safe and minimize their trauma during this situation.

The effects of the Eagle Creek fire still impact the MCSO budget. As in any major emergency, resources and funding were prioritized to ensure the safety of Multnomah County residents. This bill will bring valuable support to continued efforts that serve Multnomah and Hood River County. This is vital for our collective efforts to restore the Columbia River Gorge and to prepare and protect when the next disaster strikes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lori Stegmann".

Lori Stegmann, Multnomah County Commissioner - District 4  
Representing East Multnomah County