



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



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**Statement of Support:**  
**Item 13: Department of State Police / Department of Forestry**  
**2020 Fire Season – Wildfire Response**  
**Joint Emergency Board Committee**  
**January 8, 2021**

The Oregon Fire District Directors Association (OFDDA), formed in 1950, 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, who serve without compensation, are responsible for the financial and management oversight of the Districts.

The Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Association (OVFA), formed in 1957, offers an annual training conference for volunteers, both members and non-members, providing hands-on and classroom training as well as networking opportunities. These conferences rotate around the state, helping educate and train Oregon's 7,800 volunteer firefighters who must adhere to the same training requirements as paid firefighters.

Both associations strongly support Item #13 which would allocate \$4.0 million General Fund from the special purpose appropriation made to the Emergency Board for the state's wildfire recovery, prevention and preparedness activities to the Department of State Police, Office of the State Fire Marshal for wildfire response and preparedness; and \$13.0 million General Fund from the special purpose appropriation made to the Emergency Board for the state's wildfire recovery, prevention and preparedness activities to the Oregon Department of Forestry to supplement the wildfire aviation program, increase fire program staffing, and expand the partnership and planning program, including federal forest health programs.

We also support funding of Item #12, the request to allocate \$14,281,798 General Fund from the special purpose appropriation made to the Emergency Board for the state's wildfire recovery, prevention, and preparedness activities for the purpose of funding the state's remaining portion of the estimated net cost for the 2020 fire season.

On behalf of the Oregon Fire District Directors Association and the Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Association, thank you in advance for your support.