

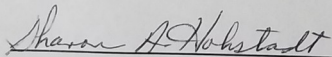
SB 394 Committee Letter

Hon. Senator Chuck Riley,

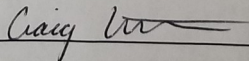
The La Grande Rural Fire Protection District supports legislation submitted by the Blue Mountain Translator District that will improve the emergency services infrastructure in our community. Among other provisions, Senate Bill 394 will explicitly authorize BMTD to aggregate and transmit local emergency alerts over its signals. BMTD has been broadcasting TV channels from Portland and Boise since 1978, and we agree that they can better serve La Grande and Island City residents by transmitting local emergency alerts on their signals. La Grande and Island City experience dangers from fires, extreme weather, and other hazards, and BMTD can become a valuable asset in the mission to ensure that emergency alerts reach residents on all available media.

The La Grande Rural Fire Protection District thanks the Senate Committee on Business and General Government for holding the first hearing on translator district statutes since 1997. We hope that the Committee will recognize SB 394's benefits to La Grande and Island City residents and move Senate Bill 394 to the Senate floor for a vote.

Best regards,



Board Chair



Fire Chief