



**Testimony in support of HB 2138
Tax credit for provision of volunteer emergency medical services**

March 12, 2019

On behalf of the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association, please consider this this testimony in support of HB 2138 which would extend the current tax credit for individuals who voluntarily provide emergency medical services in rural areas.

Volunteers are an important part of the emergency response system in Oregon. Particularly in rural areas, volunteers are often the very first responders to an incident and provide the emergency care needed to stabilize individuals in a trauma situation. The provision of this tax credit allows individuals who are giving their time, expertise and often personal resources for their community to enjoy a small benefit for that work.

Finding ways to help our volunteers continue these services helps strengthen our rural communities throughout the state. We urge your support of the extension of this tax credit and thank you for your consideration.