



Oregon Association of  
Conservation Districts

January 31, 2019

Senator Jeff Golden, Chair  
Senate Committee on Wildfire Prevention and Recovery  
[swrr.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:swrr.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov)

RE: Support for SB 1514, State Forestry Demonstration Projects

Senator Golden and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to support SB 1514. I am testifying on behalf of the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts to express support for the bill which authorizes the State Forestry Department to establish two to five demonstration projects to reduce wildfire danger on forest and range lands. The anticipated projects would provide restoration and landscape resilience while reducing hazardous fuel levels within areas identified as high fire risk areas in the Governor's Council on Wildfire Response of November 2019.

Oregon's 45 Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) are special districts governed by boards elected countywide with the mission to protect and enhance soil quality, water quality and quantity, and habitat on both farm and forest lands while supporting voluntary conservation in partnership with private landowners and managers as well as nonprofit, federal and state agency partners. As units of local government with partnering experiences with NRCS and other forestland resources, our districts have supported efficient and environmentally sound forest practices and would look forward to participating at a regional location identified in the Council's plan to take part in one of the demonstration projects.

We applaud your support in identifying a program that will allow local governments like our members and the landowners within their county to share in this work at a local community level to develop demonstration practices that can be implemented in broader areas where wildfire protection is essential.

Sincerely,

Jan Lee, Executive Director  
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