

## ANALYSIS

### Item 38: Department of Public Safety Standards and Training Wildland Fire Training

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**Analyst:** John Terpening

**Request:** Increase Other Funds expenditure limitation for the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training by \$500,000 for wildland fire training grants.

**Analysis:** The Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) is requesting an increase in Other Funds expenditure limitation to provide wildland fire training grants as part of a partnership between DPSST and the Department of State Police Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM).

SB 762 (2021) included a General Fund appropriation of \$7 million to OSFM as part of a community risk reduction program that emphasizes education and prevention of wildfire risk. DPSST and OSFM have partnered through an inter-agency agreement to utilize a portion of those funds to provide wildland training grants to local fire services that can be used for education and training, personal protective equipment, or other fire-related equipment. These grants are not intended for vehicles or other apparatus.

OSFM has transferred the funds to DPSST, which is distributing these micro grants to qualified fire departments, service districts, or other agencies that respond to wildfire events through its Fire Training and Certification program.

**Recommendation:** The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends that the Emergency Board increase Other Funds expenditure limitation by \$500,000 for the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training for wildland fire training grants.

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Department of Public Safety Standards and Training  
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**Request:** The Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) requests an increase in Other Funds expenditure limitation of \$500,000 for Wildland Training Grants for the 2021-23 biennium.

**Recommendation:** Approve the request.

**Discussion:** DPSST has been asked to assist the Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM) with awarding wildland training micro-grants to local fire departments. Local fire departments can request a grant to cover education and training, equipment, and Personal Protective Equipment specific to the needs of wildland fire response. Per the inter-agency agreement entered into by DPSST and OSFM, OSFM will transfer a total of \$500,000 during the 2021-23 biennium to DPSST to fund these grants.

**Legal Reference:** Increase the Other Funds expenditure limitation established by chapter 381, Section 2(1), Oregon Laws 2021 for the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training, Operations, by \$500,000 for the 2021-23 biennium.



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Public Safety Standards and Training

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Salem, OR 97317-8983

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<http://www.dpsst.state.or.us>

August 16, 2022

The Honorable Senator Peter Courtney, Co-Chair  
The Honorable Representative Dan Rayfield, Co-Chair  
900 Court Street NE  
H-178 State Capitol  
Salem, OR 97301-4048

Dear Co-Chairpersons:

## **Nature of Request**

The Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) requests increases in Other Funds Revenue and Expenditure limitation in the amount of \$500,000 each for the Fire Training and Certification program.

## **Background**

DPSST has been asked to assist the Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM) to award wildland training grants to the Oregon fire service. These grants are considered 'micro grants' which can assist organization's wildland response, training needs and educational requirements. Fire Departments can request a micro grant that covers wildland fire needs as outlined below:

- i) Education and training,
- ii) Equipment (no apparatus or vehicle, requests will be approved) and;
- iii) Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

To comply with SB 762 and the inter-agency agreement between OSFM and DPSST, OSFM agreed to transfer a total of \$500,000 to DPSST for the purpose of grant awards for fire service training equipment. OSFM has transferred DPSST the amount of \$250,000 to issue as grant awards for the fiscal year 2022 in June 2022 and will transfer an additional \$250,000 in the fiscal year 2023 by June 2023.

The Other Fund Revenue and Expenditure limitation would need to be increased by \$500,000 during the 2021-23 Biennium.

## **Agency Action**

DPSST will facilitate the award and dispersal of grant funding for fire services related training, and equipment to qualified fire departments, service districts, and agencies within the State of Oregon who respond to fire events.

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**Action Requested**

DPSST requests increases in Other Funds Revenue and Expenditure limitation in the amount of \$500,000 each for the Fire Training and Certification program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "BH", with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Brian Henson  
Interim Director