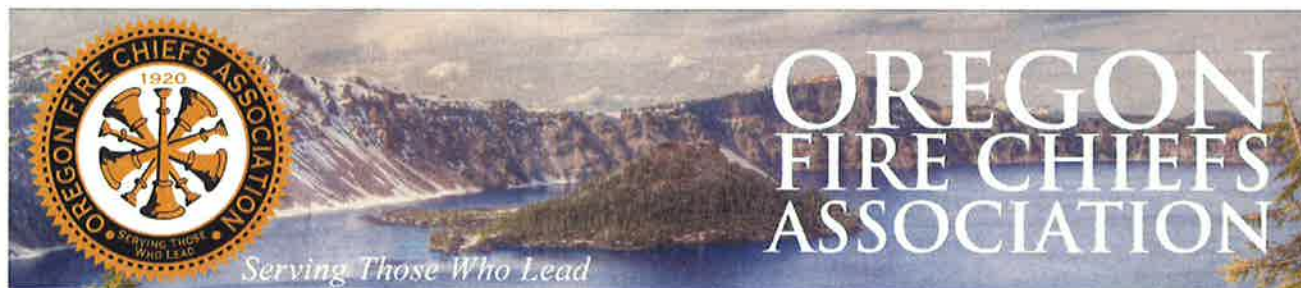


JUN 25 2021



June 25, 2021

Oregon State Senate
900 Court Street
Salem OR 97301

From The Desk of
Representative Dacia Grayber:



RE: **Oregon Fire Service Support for Senate Bill 762B**

Speaker Kotek, Leaders Smith Warner and Drazen and Members of the Oregon House of Representatives,

Today we wish to convey our strong support of SB 762B, Oregon's wildfire omnibus bill.

SB 762B represents the first package within Oregon to begin to fight back against the severe threat that wildfire brings to our state. We were there not only in 2020 during the historic fires that ravaged our state, but we have been there year after year as fire has destroyed homes, livelihoods, lands and caused loss of life. Without action, we expect that dramatic loss to continue.

SB 762B brings the necessary and multifaceted approach to mitigating Oregon's wildfire problem. Investment in risk reduction is critical to reduce the frequency and intensity of wildfires in the wildland urban interface. Increased suppression capacity and versatility will give our firefighters the best chance at protecting life, land, and property minimizing the damaging effects of wildfire. SB762B provides the needed advancement for Oregon to gain the tactical advantage over the increasing volatile conditions across our great lands. SB762B includes minimum standards for defensible space, science driven risk-based mapping to inform the establishment of appropriate standards, increased capacity and decreased response times through additional firefighting assets and pre-positioning of resources in the highest risk conditions. Fire defense and protection, fire fighter boots on the ground, pre-positioning, aerial fire defense, and local resources to protect land, structures and lives will increase not only the ability of the fire service to protect our state, but also increase the safety of those who answer the call when danger is present. SB 762B will also bring resources to those areas of the state that are most at risk of destruction and damage from wildfires.

As fire crews are preparing, and in some cases have been deployed, for the 2021 fire season, we know time of the essence and action must occur now.

The fire service has taken a vow to serve and protect our state. This duty is sacred. We will be there when you call on us. Today, we ask that you stand with us and vote YES on SB 762B.

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| ▪ Applegate Valley Rural Fire Protection District #9 | ▪ Glide Rural Fire Protection District | ▪ Pilot Rock Fire Protection District |
| ▪ Aurora Fire District | ▪ Harrisburg Fire & Rescue | ▪ Portland Fire & Rescue |
| ▪ Bend Fire & Rescue | ▪ Huntington Fire Department | ▪ Roackaway Beach Fire & Rescue |
| ▪ City of Ashland | ▪ Jackson County Fire District #3 | ▪ Rogue Valley Fire Chiefs Association |
| ▪ City of Dallas Fire & EMS | ▪ Jackson County Fire District #4 | ▪ Roseburg Fire Department |
| ▪ Clackamas Fire District #1 | ▪ Jacksonville Fire | ▪ Sisters Camp Sherman Fire District |
| ▪ Colcetin Rural Fire Protection District | ▪ Lorane Rural Fire Protection District | ▪ Sutherlin Fire Department |
| ▪ Corvallis Fire District | ▪ Marion County Fire District #1 | ▪ Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue |
| ▪ Deschutes County Rural Fire Protection District #2 | ▪ Nehalem Bay Fire & Rescue | ▪ Umatilla County Fire District #1 |
| ▪ Douglas County Fire District #2 | ▪ Nestucca Rural Fire Protection District | ▪ Western Fire Chiefs Association |
| ▪ Elkton Rural Fire Protection District | ▪ Newport Fire Department | ▪ Winston Dillard Fire District |
| ▪ Eugene Springfield Fire District | ▪ North Bay Fire District | |
| | ▪ Oregon Fire Chiefs Association | |