

North Lincoln Fire & Rescue District #1

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- To: Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery
- From: Chief Dahlman, North Lincoln Fire & Rescue
- Date: February 7, 2022
- RE: SB 1582 Testimony if Favor

Committee Members,

North Lincoln Fire & Rescue fully supports SB-1582.

Within our District there are several properties that would benefit from the bill as written. Some of those areas are completely surrounded by the District and others are within the seven road mile area. These properties are receiving fire protection at the cost of those who are in the District. During the Echo Mountain Fire Complex, our agency evacuated and provided structural protection to those homes, not within our District boundaries.

We have offered contracts to property owners that meet the same guidelines as put forth in the Bill. Several took advantage of that opportunity, but over the years they have stopped, not seeing any direct benefit to the program. It is a hard sell to explain the cost of readiness. Like insurance, you hate paying for it until you need it.

The District has also had several property owners come forward and ask to be annexed into the Fire District. Over the last year, three were approved by the County Board of Commissioners and Oregon Department of Revenue. Currently there is one pending. This is a long and tedious process that come with a cost. They need to pay for surveys and in some cases an attorney to help. I have fielded many a phone call with their frustration.

For these reasons and the ability to collect the revenue to provide and maintain fire protection we respectfully request your support.

Thank You

Chief Dahlman