

Chair Nathanson

Vice Chairs Pham and Reschke

Committee members

For the record, my name is Merrill Gonterman, and I am a board member of the Calapooia Fire District.

This is an important piece of legislation that helps close a loophole of current legislation and effects fire districts around the state.

Passing this bill is important to the Fire Service in Oregon. In the current situation, a person calls 911 to report a fire or other emergency. Every second counts, the dispatchers immediately notify the local fire department of the emergency. Firefighters respond to help someone in need. Whether it is a house fire or medical emergency, they expect the firefighters to take care of the situation.

Imagine yourself as a firefighter arriving at a house on fire and telling them we are not going to do anything to help you save your property and belongings.

Every property assisting in paying for the infrastructure is a reasonable process to fund services.

I ask that this committee move SB1582 out of committee with a do pass recommendation to the House Floor.

Thank you for your time.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Merrill Gonterman".

Merrill Gonterman

Calapooia Fire Board Member