

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Item 33: Department of Forestry Wildfire Funding Workgroup Facilitation

To: Emergency Board
From: Human Services Subcommittee
Carrier: Senator Campos

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends that the Emergency Board allocate \$157,500 General Fund from the Emergency Fund to the Department of Forestry to procure a facilitator for a workgroup on wildfire funding strategies.

In the 2024 legislative session, SB 5701 included a budget note directing the Oregon Department of Forestry and the Department of the State Fire Marshal to convene a workgroup to identify options for sustainably funding the state's wildfire costs. A contracted third-party facilitator is intended to continue focused conversations among a diverse workgroup exploring wildfire funding strategies within the context of the state's public finance strategy. The agencies shall provide a joint report on the workgroup's progress to the Emergency Board in December 2024 and the Joint Committee on Ways and Means during the 2025 legislative session.

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends approval.