I OPPOSE [SB 509].

The ''Text of [SB 509], [Page (1), at Lines (4-8)]'' states, "SECTION 1. The State Forestry Department shall study community-based programs for reducing wildfire risk. The department shall submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and may include recommendations for legislation, to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to natural resources no later than September 15, 2024. SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2023 Act is repealed on January 2, 2025."

The "Text of [SB 81], [Page (1), at Lines (4-7)]" states, SECTION 1. The State Forestry Department shall study incentivizing landowners to reduce wildfire risk. The department shall submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and may include recommendations for legislation, to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to natural resources no later than September 15, 2024" [I Oppose this Bill.]

*All of these ''study programs'' do not reduce risk of wildfires today or even tomorrow. We need leadership to use the resources at hand. We can do this work.

**We already know property owners must become more vigilant through construction of defensible perimeters, cutting down grass, reducing the canopies of trees and making their structures (homes, especially roofs) as fireproof as possible.

**We already know the Federal Government does not manage the forests to prevent wildfires. How about Governor Kotek show some initiative and "kick some Federal butts?"

*****Here's an idea for Governor Kotek, have her tell President Biden to revive the;

Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and the Works Progress Administration (WPA) <u>BEFORE</u> the recession and fire season arrives. There are plenty of unemployed citizens. Illegal aliens who have invaded our nation via President Biden's intentional act of letting anyone who could walk, crawl or be carried into our country are unemployed and have nowhere to live. Under proper supervision, relocate these people to forests and put them to work-and make them learn English.

The "neighborhood protection cooperative program?" Neighbors in rural and forested areas, with a few exceptions, help each other all the time. You cannot expect them to combat raging conflagrations without proper training and firefighting equipment.