



OREGON STATE FIRE FIGHTERS COUNCIL

International Association of Fire Fighters
AFL-CIO CLC

House Committee on Emergency Management,
General Government and Veterans

Chair Representative Dacia Grayber
Vice Chair Rick Lewis
Vice Chair Thuy Tran

Chair Grayber, Vice Chairs Tran and Lewis,

For the record my name is Karl Koenig, President of the Oregon State Fire Fighters and we represent 3700 career fire fighters and paramedics throughout the great State of Oregon.

We are here to testify in favor of House Bill 3485, finishing the administrative legislation required to make the Office of the State Fire Marshal its own entity. From its early agency days through the oversight by the State Police the Oregon State Fire Marshal's Office touches more Oregonians lives than many realize. From Hazard Materials Enforcement and oversight to responding to assigned responses, Wildland Interface, School and Hospital Certifications, Prevention Activities, Fire and Life Safety Education for our Children, Safety Education, Incident management Teams Coordination, and Team Performance Intra Agency, Fire Service Mobilization Plan Administration and Operations, Fire Service partnership coordination, Apprentice Funding and administration to name several examples.

This agency brings a stressed Oregon Fire Service together through collaboration, excellent internal and external customer service, solid historic relevance, and a mission many in the Oregon Fire strive to emulate.

Technically sound and driven from many years of operating hand to mouth this agency deserves your legislative support both in committee, and once on the floor of the House as example of good governance, exceptional customer service, and the most important in our minds a dedication to all Oregonians as it relates to so much more than fire.



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Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. If the Committee has any questions, please ask.

Regards

Karl Koenig s/s

Karl Koenig
President
Oregon State Fire Fighters Council