

Submitter: John Wooten

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure: SB1068

I am writing as a fire chief to lend my support for SB 1068. The passage of this legislation will move Oregon one step closer to helping cover unprotected and under protected areas by allowing annexation for the purpose of fire protection. Having areas within the boundary that are not part of the taxing system is not fair to those who pay for fire protection. These properties may pose serious hazards as they are legally not part of the District although they are in it. Response to these properties subjects the cost for service to be born by those who pay for it while others expect it but do not pay or it. In some cases the lack of taxing revenues for the properties within the boundaries prevents Districts from increasing or even meeting minimum service demands due to the revenue the properties would otherwise provide. Thank you for considering this important bill.