

Submitter: William Chapin  
On Behalf Of: Kellogg Rural Fire District  
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means  
Measure: SB5506

Good Afternoon,

My name is William Chapin. My wife and I have resided in Umpqua, Oregon - In the Kellogg Rural Fire District, since 1995. I am testifying in support of Kellogg's Capital Construction funding request to assist in building a fully functional fire station.

While we enjoy the quiet and solitude of this area, as an older couple - we do not enjoy being so far from town. It is reassuring to know that if we should suffer a medical emergency or forget to turn off the stove and have a kitchen fire - that help is just a few minutes away. However, we are concerned that the fire department is functioning out of outdated, ramshackle pole barns that outlived their usefulness years ago. I would think it is very difficult to attract new volunteers to the department - when the training quarters are full of birds and bat droppings! In addition, with one way in and out of our area - we are concerned about wildfire and that our nearest department does not have all of the tools it needs to protect us, at its disposal. The existing facilities simply cannot hold all of the equipment necessary to fight a full conflagration.

We respectfully urge you to strongly consider funding a new fire station for the Kellogg Rural Fire Department. We truly believe it is in the best interest of our citizens and will enhance the safety of our firefighters.

William Chapin