



1000 Friends of Oregon
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March 5, 2025

Rep. John Lively, Chair
House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment
State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Re: HB 3172 - Wildfire Prepared Structure Program

1000 Friends of Oregon **supports** HB 3172. This bill establishes the Wildfire Prepared Structure grant program, which funds retrofitting homes and accessory structures to reduce their vulnerability to wildfire, thereby making homes and communities more wildfire prepared and resilient.

1000 Friends of Oregon is a nonprofit, membership organization that works with Oregonians to support livable urban and rural communities; protect family farms, forests and natural areas; and provide transportation and housing choice through Oregon's land use planning program.

Oregon's land use program provides multiple and diverse tools to help Oregonians live more safely with wildfire. In 2019, 1000 Friends published the comprehensive report [A New Vision for Wildfire Planning: A Report on Land Use and Wildfires](#), which includes a recommendation for use of wildfire resilient building materials, especially in areas of higher wildfire risk and for vulnerable populations. This past year, we established the website, wildfirereadyoregon.org, which among other things provides education and resources for those who would like to make their existing or new home more wildfire resilient.

HB 3172 is a critical component of ensuring that all Oregonians are wildfire-prepared and their homes and communities are wildfire resilient. The bill does this by funding:

- Retrofits of homes with key elements, including fire resistant siding, roofs, and vents.
- Widespread education on the most important steps Oregonians can take to make their homes more wildfire prepared.

We have worked with Oregonians to enhance our quality of life by building livable urban and rural communities, protecting family farms and forests, and conserving natural areas since 1974.

- Prioritizing grants to socially and economically vulnerable populations, those who live in wildfire prone areas, and those whose homes have been destroyed or damaged by wildfire.

Funding and growing this program is cost-effective, because it can save homes and lives, more structures that have wildfire-resistant building materials can slow fire spread, and it increases firefighter safety. We urge your support for HB 3172.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Kyle McCurdy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary Kyle McCurdy
Associate Director