



House Committee on Judiciary
Chair Kropf

Subject: LOC support for HB 3666, HB 3917

On behalf of Oregon's 241 communities, the League of Oregon Cities is offering its support for HB 3666 and HB 3917. Both legislative proposals provide important policy considerations for this committee to advance forward.

Given the current conditions of wildfire risk and coming off the historic 2024 fire season, Oregon faces many challenges ranging from stable funding for wildfire suppression to investment in resilience to reduce the risk of wildfire intensity. The overall wildfire policy must continue to include energy providers who collectively respond to wildfire risk and resilience planning.

HB 3666 clearer safety standards and best practices for wildfire mitigation and the activities and investments utilities will take to keep communities safe. We believe the Wildfire Safety Certification process is incredibly important, and we are happy to see the updated structure.

HB 3917 creates a wildfire compensation fund to provide more immediate and specific remedies to victims impacted by wildfires. This legislation envisions the financial infrastructure that will result in a more efficient, reliable source of compensation for individuals and communities affected by wildfires as an alternative to civil litigation without changing utility company liability for wildfires.

The LOC is happy to join the coalition of support for HB 3666, and HB 3917.

Regards,

Jim McCauley
Legislative Director