



# Glide Rural Fire Protection District

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To Chair Nosse, Vice-Chairs Diehl and Nelson, and Members of the Committee;

My name is Ted Damewood and I am the Fire Chief at Glide Rural Fire Protection District, and my testimony is in support of HB 4156. We are a small combination fire department located 17 miles outside of Roseburg Oregon, serving approximately 4,500 locals covering about 29 square miles up the North Umpqua, part of North Bank Road, and out Little River Drive. We run an average of 600 calls per year, last year topping out at 646, of which 442 of those calls were specifically EMS Related.

Currently we are not receiving GEMT funding or doing transporting unless in extreme cases, but we are working on advancing our practices to meet the call volume these last few years, which will start including transportation. We feel this would greatly benefit us in the years to come as we are an aging community and transport would cut down on the patients wait time for the other ambulances to arrive on scene for more advanced medical care. We also have a Mutual Aid Agreement and Auto Aid Agreements between us and other agencies that we will go on their calls if they need help, so this will affect us as well as them.

Since we currently do not receive GEMT funding it would not affect us at this time, but as we advance our skills and our personnel a lapse could greatly affect a small community like ours. We have very little resources for income and currently only work off our Tax Base which was set in 2013 during our Levy, and not eligible to raise it per our agreement with our community.

Should nothing change from the federal government and we start transporting based off the current funding model, we would still be growing our services as well as working with the other agencies to ensure calls are not missed.

Thank you for your time and considering in support of HB 4156. We look forward to a better future for all medical responders.

Ted Damewood  
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Fire Chief, Glide Rural Fire Protection District