

Federal Grant Application Request  
**Department of Public Safety Standards and Training**  
Assistance to Firefighters

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**Analyst:** Julie Neburka

**Request:** Approve, retroactively, the submission of a federal grant application by the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program, in the amount of \$145,000.

**Recommendation:** Approve the request.

**Analysis:** The Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program provides financial assistance to fire departments, Emergency Management organizations, and state fire training academies for safety and operating equipment. If awarded, DPSST would use the one-time grant funds to purchase a new skidtruck frame custom-fitted to a heavy-duty truck used to train Oregon firefighters to drive emergency vehicles under hazardous conditions. These frames are heavy-duty carriages on which fire or other large trucks are mounted, allowing firefighter and emergency response personnel to practice high-risk driving maneuvers safely, without overturning their vehicles. The new skidtruck frame will be used in conjunction with a new, Department-purchased large truck to provide firefighter driver training at various locations throughout the state. DPSST trains 1,200 firefighters annually in the Skid Avoidance for Fire Apparatus Drivers program, the most-requested training DPSST provides to firefighting agencies throughout the state.

The grant requires a 15% match of \$21,750, which will be paid from the Department's current legislatively approved budget. DPSST applied for this grant on December 5, 2014, after timely 10-day notification. Awards are anticipated to be announced on March 5, 2015.

The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends approval of the request. If the grant is awarded, DPSST may return to the Legislature with a future request for additional Federal Funds expenditure limitation.