



To: Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery

Re: Testimony regarding SB 762 and Amendments

On behalf of the Southern Oregon Forest Restoration Collaborative (SOFRC), we are endorsing Senate Bill 762 and the three recent amendments. As residents of Southwest Oregon, we recently experienced wildfires that burned over 2400 structures and homes in the Almeda fire. Friends and coworkers were displaced and traumatized by these events. California type fires have arrived in southern Oregon.

The SOFRC has been involved in working with local communities to resolve critical wildfire risk and forest restoration issues since 2005. We applaud the Senate for developing this important piece of legislation.

In particular, the following portions of the bill are worthy of support:

- **Prescribed fire**--this is by far the most economical way to reduce wildfire risks and costs
- **Wildfire risk reduction**--sets a balance between landscape resiliency and the need for fuels reduction
- **Statewide map of wildfire risk:** Provides consistency and a comprehensive, statewide approach

SOFRC also agrees with each of the proposed amendments to the bill. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Terry Fairbanks

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Terry Fairbanks'. The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Executive Director
Southern Oregon Forest Restoration Collaborative