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To: House Committee on Wildfire Recovery; [others]

Re: I SUPPORT [HB 3127]...Bring back the CCC and the WPA-Oregon needs rebuilding help!

[HB 3127] excerpt states, "SECTION 1. **The Legislative Policy and Research Office shall study strategies to promote recovery from the 2020 wildfire season and present the results of the study in a report to an appropriate committee or interim committee of the Legislative Assembly**, in the manner provided in ORS 192.245, on or before September 15, 2022."

This is a very big (and unfair) task your heaping upon the shoulders of "The Legislative Policy and Research Office."

Here is one rough idea for you. Mr. Oregon also agrees with the following idea.

Oregon's major cities have become over populated urban slums. There are many requests to the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA) to permit the expansion of Urban Growth Boundaries (UGB) of these deteriorating cities.

Infrastructure investments into the "burned out small towns" might serve to solve multiple problems simultaneously.

The investment into drinking water supplies and treatment and sewage and wastewater treatment is a mandatory requirement. These investments in are very expensive but, necessary for economic sustainability and resiliency.

Modern sewage treatment plants are very expensive to build, operate and maintain. Where are you going to get the money? Well, use some of the money the quack in the Whitehouse has borrowed not for welfare vote buying tactics but, for necessary and required infrastructure investment.

The key problems will be; the collection system, what to do with the "sludge" and removal of ammonia and temperature issues concerning discharge into the receiving waters. "Warm water" and ammonia effluent discharges are deleterious to aquatic life such as; trout, steelhead, salmon...you get the idea.

*The storm water collection system must be separate from the waste water collection system so as not to "overwhelm" the Publically Owned Treatment Works (POTW) or more colloquially known as the sewage treatment plant.

Both the POTW effluent and storm water should be diverted into percolation ponds to replenish groundwater supplies and or for irrigation purposes to rebuild burned out forest lands.

A formation of a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) might be applicable here.

Rebuilding burned out areas requires many employment opportunities which will serve as a partial remedy to "de-populate" Oregon's over populated cities. There are only a finite number of jobs and housing and too many people to serve.

I am an advocate to re-invent the "Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)" as well as the "Works Progress Administration (WPA)." Money to fund this could easily come from the down-sizing and reallocation of resources from the bloated, inefficient welfare agency otherwise known as the State of Oregon's Housing and Community Services Department as well as the borrowed money from the Feds.

The CCC could hire people to rebuild the forests, construct trails and environmentally acceptable housing.

The WPA folks could do just about everything else.

A little help from the Army Corps of Engineers would also be appreciated.

After a short while; churches, schools, hardware stores, manufacturing, other shops and restaurants will re-appear.

Respectfully submitted
/s/ David S. Wall