



OREGON MILITARY DEPARTMENT
102 CIVIL SUPPORT TEAM (WMD)
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SALEM OR 97302-2099

NGOR-CST

12 February 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR

House Committee on Health Care
Representative Rachel Prusak, Chair
Representative Cedric Hayden, Vice-Chair
Representative Andrea Salinas, Vice-Chair
Committee Members

SUBJECT: HB 2075

1. It is my pleasure to write this letter in support of HB 2075 and the critical services and collaborative partnerships that Radiation Protective Services (RPS) provides. Radiation Protective Services is a committed leader in Oregon's radiation response enterprise, crucially linking private business with local, state and federal agencies to protect the health and safety of all Oregonians. In this manner, RPS adds immense value to our great State. It is in the best interest of all Oregonians to ensure that RPS can continue to provide the same level of professional expertise and engagement to prevent and mitigate harm from any radiological hazard.

2. My organization, the 102 Civil Support Team (CST), is a small, full time Oregon National Guard (ORNG) unit charged with responding to chemical, biological and radiological incidents throughout the state. As Commander of the 102 CST, I rely on RPS as a trusted partner to provide professional, subject matter expertise to our ORNG personnel in the form of radiation training, technical specifications and realistic exercise scenario facilitation. We know that when we call RPS to conduct joint radiation response training that they will be there in support of their vital role to prevent and mitigate radiological disasters. They conduct this training several times each year, at no cost to supported agencies, receiving no fee for their time and expertise. In doing so, they increase the education and proficiency of dozens agencies throughout the State.

3. Training and exercise participation develop critical relationships and processes prior to a real world incident. RPS's engagement in the State's training and exercise cycle from small-scale drills to full scale exercises such as the Columbia Generating Station-Hanford Radiation Release Exercise have enabled RPS to build and maintain relationships at the local, state and federal level. These relationships and processes have been tested through over fifteen real world radiological responses that we have

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been fortunate enough to collaborate with RPS on. These no-notice, immediate responses have ranged from Japan's Fukushima Daiich radiation release, radioactive waste spills and identification of unknown radiation sources throughout the state. In each case, RPS's expertise and established relationships with both private and public entities have been fundamental to providing quick assessments and consequence management to protect lives, the environment and property.

4. Radiation Protective Service is an important and valuable partner to the 102 Civil Support Team, multiple local, state and federal agencies as well as private business. The 102 CST simply could not maintain our radiological capability at the same level without RSP's assistance. The same can be said for Oregon's radiological response infrastructure, as a whole. No other agency can fill a gap left by a reduction in RPS's capacity to train and respond to prevent harm from radiological incidents.

5. The point of contact for this memorandum is the undersigned at 503-584-3204 or at julia.r.appt.mil@mail.mil.

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Commanding