

February 22, 2022

Chair Nancy Nathanson &
House Revenue Committee
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Chair Nathanson & Members of the House Revenue Committee:

The Special Districts Association of Oregon represents approximately 956 local governmental districts across the state that typically provide a single service like fire and rescue, parks and recreation, municipal water, wastewater and library services to name a few of our 34 member types. provide a wide range of services including fire and rescue, parks and recreation, municipal water, wastewater and storm water services, and library services to name a few of our 32 member types. SDAO asks that you support and pass SB 1582.

During the recent pandemic, the State of Oregon, every city, and county within the state received billions of dollars in federal assistance to respond to and recover from many of the challenges that we have collectively endured over the last two years. During that same time special districts across the state collectively received \$25 million from one installment made to the cities and counties at the direction of the Legislative Assembly. Our association and membership are and were grateful for those funds. But the pandemic has not been the only challenge impacting our rural fire districts - so have the recent historic wildfires.

Our fire districts across the state continue to provide incredible and oftentimes life and property-saving services for the citizens of Oregon. Their dedication and commitment to their duty is only limited by the resources and equipment they can bring to bear when confronting the challenges and calls for help that are before them on a routine basis.

When individual property owners can knowingly benefit from these types of services it creates inequities that should and can be remedied. SB 1582 is a simple and fair approach to ensuring that those who benefit from a service pay for that service.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,



Mark Landauer
Lobbyist
Special Districts Association of Oregon