

**OREGON STATE FIRE FIGHTERS COUNCIL** 

International Association of Fire Fighters AFL-CIO CLC

House Committee on Behavioral Health And Health Care Chair Nosse Vice Chair Goodwin Vice Chair Nelson 2023 Session Oregon Legislature

Chair Nosse, Vice Chair Goodwin, Vice Chair Nelson,

For the record, my name is Karl Koenig President of the Oregon State Fire Fighters Council. We represent the 3700 career fire fighters and paramedics across the state of Oregon.

We are in favor of HB 2395 and its suite of bills that deal with public access to Naloxone. For over 40 years paramedics and EMT's have been administering Naloxone or Narcan to patients with suspected opioid overdose. With often dramatic results.

This bill gives public access to the life saving drug that reverses the effects of opioid ingestion much like public access defibrillators have saved many a victim of sudden cardiac arrest.

We are certain this will save lives throughout the state. This bill addresses liability concerns for safe and legal distribution of Naloxone. We are joined by our colleagues in Emergency Medicine in our support of public access Naloxone here in Oregon.

We urge a Yes Vote in Committee and take HB 2395 to the floor.

Respectfully

Karl Koenig s/s

Karl Koenig President Oregon State Fire Fighters Council