



Coburg Fire District

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Oregon House Review Committee Chair Meek, Vice Chair Boquist, and committee members, I am providing written testimony in support of SB 1068.

Coburg Rural Fire District is like many Rural Fire Districts across the State. We have homes unprotected and untaxed by choice and do not pay into the system, yet expect we respond in force and mitigate the emergency when it happens. The current system allows a checkerboard of coverage and individuals to opt into that coverage. This system increases the cost to the individual property owners that want to have basic fire coverage.

The current taxpayers are directly subsidizing the non-paying properties. The Fire Districts and the State of Oregon are working hard to increase our response capabilities, capacity, and staffing throughout the state. The first step is to start working on securing our local funding and allow collection of the revenue to cover the real cost of covering our local communities.

I ask that you support SB 1068.

Chief Chad Minter
Coburg Fire District