



February 8, 2024

To Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire

From: Oregon Association of Conservation Districts

Re: **Support SB 1511- 1, Wildfire Risk Reduction**

Chair Golden and Committee Members,

The Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD) represents Oregon's 45 Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs), special districts governed by elected boards. The Districts protect and enhance soil quality, water quality and quantity, and habitat by supporting voluntary conservation in partnership with private landowners and managers as well as federal, state, and nonprofit partners.

OACD supports SB 1511 with the -1 Amendments. We believe that establishing a grant program for wildfire risk mitigation on a community basis is a good approach. Coupling this with a risk reduction certification program provides additional incentive for homeowners to take action when it helps with obtaining fire insurance.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stan Dean".

Stan Dean, Advocacy Committee Chair
Oregon Association of Conservation Districts

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