

SB 862 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/4, 3/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure modifies fire district names, in addition to posting and reporting requirements to the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) and directs the OSFM to adopt a base fire prevention code publicly accessible online.

Fiscal impact: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue impact: No revenue impact

Detailed Summary:

Clarifies that fire house, houses or headquarters are “facilities” of a fire department or district. Removes district monthly form reporting requirements to the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) and maintains that reports shall still be available upon request. Repeals Oregon Revised Statute 478.940, requiring fire districts to post their fire prevention codes at each fire station, instead, directing the OSFM to adopt a standard fire prevention code that will be publicly available online. Authorizes Fire districts to add provisions to OSFM’s base code, provided they also make their modified codes publicly accessible online. Authorizes OSFM to assign unique identifiers to consolidated or merged fire districts, provided that fire district boards or department chiefs request in writing or via email a unique district identifier from OSFM.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- ORS 478.001 (Rural Fire Protection Districts, definitions)

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-2 amendment removes "base" from the term "fire district's base fire prevention code." Resolves that the State Fire Marshal will establish a base fire prevention code, and while fire districts are not required to adopt this base code, they must keep copies of their own fire prevention codes and any additional provisions available to the public online.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon Revised Statutes 478.001 (Rural Fire Protection Districts, definitions) defines a fire district as a rural fire protection district that provides fire protection and services to rural communities within defined boundaries and subject to specific regulations. The Department of the State Fire Marshal collaborates with local fire departments and districts to oversee fire safety and emergency response efforts. Currently, there are 306 active structural firefighting agencies in Oregon.