SB 862 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

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Meeting Dates: 4/29, 5/6

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.

Detailed Summary:

- Clarifies that fire house, houses, or headquarters are "facilities" of a fire department or district.
- Removes requirement that districts report monthly to the State Fire Marshal.
- Repeals ORS 478.940, requiring fire districts to post their fire prevention codes at each fire station, instead
 directing the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) to adopt a base fire prevention code that is publicly
 available electronically.
- Requires fire districts to keep copies of any district fire prevention codes at the district office and make available to the public electronically.
- Requires district board or chief when a district is organized to submit a request to the State Fire Marshal for a
 unique identifier and directs the State Fire Marshal to assign unique identifiers to new, consolidated, or
 merged fire districts.

Fiscal impact: Minimal fiscal impact Revenue impact: No revenue impact

Senate vote: Ayes 29, Excused 1

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- House Bill 2522 (2023) and the work of OSFM and the Rural Structural Fire Protection Review Committee
- National reporting registry implementation

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

ORS 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.

Unique identifiers, or Fire Department Identification (FDID), is a unique identification number assigned to fire departments, typically by local, state, or federal agencies. This number helps track and verify the fire department's information for various purposes, such as emergency response coordination, reporting, and regulatory compliance. FDIDs are commonly used in systems for fire service records, grants, and data sharing between departments or agencies.