HB 3350 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

Action Date: 04/01/25

Action: Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference.

(Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 6-0-1-0

Yeas: 6 - Boice, Grayber, Lewis, Skarlatos, Tran, Watanabe

Exc: 1 - Evans

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued **Revenue:** No revenue impact

Prepared By: Beverly Anderson, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/25, 4/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure appropriates \$1 million in funding to the State Department of Forestry for deposit in the Rangeland Protection Association Fund. Declares emergency, takes effect upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Examples of the work of the Rangeland Fire Protection Associations, including their response to recent wildfires
- Examples of the typical costs associated with wildfire response and the limited revenue available to associations
- Confirmation that association members pay dues to assist with costs
- Estimations of the cost of fuel for wildfire response, and other costs that association members might not get reimbursed for

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Sets appropriation amount at \$1 million.

BACKGROUND:

Rangeland fire protection associations operate as independent associations of landowners that provide local wildfire protection. According to the Oregon Department of Forestry, the department supports these associations through administrative guidance, administrative cost reimbursement, fire suppression training, and facilitating access to federal grants and surplus firefighting equipment.