

January 30, 2025

House Committee on Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans  
Oregon State Legislature  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Tran and members of the Committee,

My name is Larry Morgan, and I serve as the Chief of Staff for the City of Gresham. I am writing to you today to express our support for House Concurrent Resolution 2 on behalf of the city. This resolution is of paramount importance to our community, as it aims to bring significant advancements in the health and safety of our dedicated firefighters.

The City of Gresham is in strong support of HCR 2. Firefighters consistently put their lives on the line to protect our communities. However, the gear they rely on for protection often contains perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), which are recognized as carcinogenic. It is imperative that the industry is urged to develop PFAS-free equipment so that we can ensure that our firefighters are equipped with the safest possible gear, allowing them to continue their life-saving work without compromising their health. Investing in safer, PFAS-free equipment will significantly enhance the health and safety of our firefighters, reducing occupational cancer and related health issues.

Thank you for your consideration of our support and we look forward to the positive impact that this will undoubtedly bring to our firefighters and our community. Our firefighters deserve nothing less.

Sincerely,



Larry Morgan  
Chief of Staff, City of Gresham