



To: Members of the House Committee on Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

From: Chief Brian Stewart
Clackamas Fire District
Oregon Fire Chiefs Association

Chief Ben Stange
Polk County Fire District No. 1
SDAO Fire Districts

Date: February 19, 2025

Re: SB 91 – Testimony in Support w/Adoption of the Dash 1 Amendment

Chair Sollman, Vice-Chair Brock Smith and Members of the committee,

On behalf of the **Oregon Fire Chiefs Association** and the **Special Districts Association of Oregon Fire Districts**, we are here today to testify in support of the Senate Bill 91 with adoption of the Dash-1 amendments. As fire service leaders, we appreciate efforts to make our profession safer and reduce the risks of occupational disease for our firefighters.

This bill would make Oregon the 16th state to prohibit the use of Aqueous Film-Forming Foam (AFFF) in fire suppression. Under the bill, fire departments and districts will be required to phase out AFFF use by July 2026. Fortunately, a PFAS-free foam alternative, known as P3, is already being utilized at Oregon's largest airport, PDX, as well as other airports across the state. Recognizing the health and environmental importance of this transition, Oregon became the first state in the nation to eliminate AFFF from its major airport firefighting foam inventory for use in petroleum-based aircraft fire incidents.

This bill takes the necessary and responsible steps to remove AFFF from the broader Oregon fire service in a phased and manageable manner. Additionally, the Oregon fire service remains committed to working in consultation with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to ensure the proper disposal and safe removal of any remaining AFFF from fire stations.

Thank you for your commitment to the well-being of Oregon's fire service professionals.