



To: Members of the House Committee on Housing and Homelessness

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

Date: March 3, 2025

Re: HB 3505-2 – Testimony in Support w/Adoption of the Dash 2 Amendment

Dear Chair Marsh, Vice Chairs Anderson and Brees-Iverson, and Members of the Committee,

The Oregon Fire Chiefs Association is writing to express its strong support for HB 3505 with the -2 amendment. The Oregon Fire Chiefs Association represents over 300 local and tribal fire agencies in the state.

Fire sprinklers activate while fires are small – typically only using one sprinkler. Activated early, this sprinkler allows time for occupants to exit the structure and reduces the need for multiple fire engine hoses to attack the fire. A residential fire sprinkler uses approximately 20 gallons of water per minute until firefighters arrive and shut it down. This limited duration and quantity of water is negligible on the water system, but residential sprinklers provide Oregonians a critical means to protect their lives and homes.

The Oregon Fire Chiefs Association recognizes the need for system development charges and the important role they play for water purveyors. Allowing the exception for upsized meters - only for residential sprinklers - makes sense. The Oregon Fire Chiefs Association understands this HB 3505-2 sill allows water purveyors to receive SDCs for future additions to the property (e.g. swimming pool, bathroom addition) which make use of the upsized meter.

Thank you for considering our testimony. We encourage the passage of HB 3505-2.