



# OREGON STATE FIRE FIGHTERS COUNCIL

International Association of Fire Fighters  
AFL-CIO CLC

March 4, 2025

Dear Chair Prozanski and members for the committee:

**We are writing today asking for you to support SB 959.**

In the state and nationwide we have seen an increase in the usage of signal jamming devices that can disable fire alarms and delay the response of emergency services. Our state's firefighters rely on these critical signals and the monitoring stations that receive them to know when and where to deploy. If criminals jam signals, we might never know there is a fire taking place which could result in the loss of life and property.

This is why we support legislation that would protect the integrity of life safety systems across the state. Quite simply, they help us save lives.

SB 959 would also protect this electronic equipment from unauthorized, or poorly conducted repairs. The dangers only increase when untrained personnel attempt to make repairs to critical infrastructure like life safety equipment. Like healthcare staff in a hospital, we rely on emergency signals to know when to respond. If a patient's vitals drop, healthcare staff rush in. The same is for us with fire alarm signals. However, if a naïve handyman believes they can repair a system, they might not know they failed until a fire starts and nobody responds. Additionally, arsonists would have a leg up if they could attempt to make an unauthorized repair. This is why every state has exempted security and life safety equipment from the right to repair.

Thank you for your consideration and support of this bill,

Karl Koenig, President  
Oregon State Fire Fighters Council