

Submitter: Gene Brown
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and
Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB579

I am standing in support of Senate Bill 579 to provide funding for the addition of living quarters to the Umpqua Fire Station. The area affected to primarily livestock and agricultural land, it is the home of a large number of elderly Oregonians. They have lived here and paid taxes over the years for fire protection from locations that are closer to Roseburg. The growth has brought in more homes and families, yet the fire department locations remain where they use to be. In addition more recreational vehicle accidents are occurring in the mountainous area. An operating Fire Station would greatly increase the response times in emergencies.

All this is only one part of the benefit derived from this addition. It will provide for Umpqua Community College Fire Science students to get real life experiences. It will help recruit additional firefighters and help with reaching more high school age students to seek a career as a firefighter.

This one investment helps a community, a college, and our future. I strongly support SB579.