

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

Honorable Members of the Oregon legislature,
I would like to express my strong support for the proposed infrastructure project to add living quarters to Central Douglas Fire & Rescue's existing unstaffed fire station in Umpqua, Oregon.

Last year in October, our immediate neighbors left a large burn pile going overnight. It caught the surrounding trees on fire in the middle of the night. Every minute counts when a fire is burning out of control. Also our little community has a very large number of seniors who have needed quick response times with medical issues. We have a neighbor who has heart issues and always worry that help won't arrive in time when an emergency arises. Usually response times out here can range from 30 minutes to an hour depending on how far down the road people live. Any emergency would have a quicker response time if we were utilizing our empty fire department here in Umpqua.

This will provide Umpqua Community College Fire Science students to get real life experiences and help recruit additional new firefighters.

Thank you for your considerable,
Scott and Kirra Leonard