
OREGON Fire Marshals ASSOCIATION

March 11, 2025

Senate Committee on Housing and Development
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Chair Pham, Vice-Chair Anderson and Members of the Committee,

The Oregon Fire Marshal's Association (OFMA) opposes SB-49. Currently proposed amendments, as we read it, would provide an either-or option to fire service representation on the Oregon Structures Board.

The Oregon Fire Marshal's Association is made up of fire code officials, industry leaders and individuals that are dedicated to the protection of life and property against fire.

Fire service representation on the structures board plays a critical role and important responsibility. A fire official or delegate provides firsthand experience and knowledge in the enforcement and application of state adopt codes. This knowledge and experience are very important in providing a professional, day-to-day application of fire and life safety codes. The fire official or delegate also brings an opinion that offers an operations-based accountability to our citizens, buildings and fire protection systems reaction to emergencies within structures.

OFMA supports adding a new board position to enhance diversity in representation. However, we strongly urge the Committee to reject the Dash 1 amendments to SB 49. Fire service professionals play a critical role in applying state-adopted codes and standards in real-world scenarios, ensuring public safety and effective emergency response.

Sincerely,

Shawn Olson

Oregon Fire Marshals Association
PO Box 8109 Salem, OR 97303
www.ofma.net

Legislative Chair-Oregon Fire Marshal's Association