

Submitter: Dacia Grayber
On Behalf Of: House District 28
Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management, General
Government, and Veterans
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3350

3/14/2025

I am writing in strong support of both HB 3349 and 3350, regarding the Rangeland Fire Protection Association.

For years in this state, resources—and funding—has often been siloed, or victim to territorialism as every firefighting faction fought for their piece of the pie. As we have seen in the last decade, we are at a tipping point where truly, we are all in this together. Fire doesn't care if you're a Democrat from Portland, or a Republican from Vale; what matters is our ability to come together and put the fire out. From the RFPA to the Professional Firefighters of this state that also mobilize on wildland efforts, we all rely on each other in these increasingly unprecedented and historical fire seasons.

Our RFPA volunteers are the first responders for a huge swath of this state, most often in remote and distant terrain that takes other fire professionals extended time to respond to. They are the very best of neighbors helping neighbors, and the invaluable work they do to keep fires small cannot be understated. Based on the fire seasons we are seeing and a changing climate that is bringing increasing heat and drought to all parts of our state, as we plan for the future, strengthening the RFPA will be increasingly critical to getting a handle on fire management. Supporting these folks with equipment and funding is not only the right thing to do for them, it's the right thing to do for Oregon.

Thank you,
Dacia Grayber
State Representative, HD 28
...and firefighter for 25+ years