



**To: Members of the House Committee on Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans**

**From: Chief Brian Stewart**  
Clackamas Fire District  
Oregon Fire Chiefs Association

**Chief Ben Stange**  
Polk County Fire District No. 1  
Fire and Emergency Medical Services Chapter of SDAO

**Date: March 27, 2025**

**Re: HB 3798 – Support**

**Chair Tran, Vice-Chairs Grayber and Lewis, and members of the committee,**

The Oregon Fire Chiefs Association and the Fire and Emergency Medical Services Chapter of SDAO is pleased to provide testimony in support of HB 3798.

HB 3798 creates a joint effort with the Oregon State Fire Marshal and the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) to enhance statewide efforts in training firefighters to effectively respond to fires caused by lithium-ion batteries.

As fires become more frequent and are triggered by a variety of factors, we have a strong desire for our firefighters to have proper and effective training to combat them, ensuring the safety of our communities.

With the increasing presence of electric vehicles on the roads, the risk of fires caused by lithium-ion batteries is rising, and this trend will likely continue. These battery fires are not only challenging to extinguish but also extremely toxic, posing risks to our firefighters.

This bill takes a significant step in supporting our fire safety personnel by allocating \$1 million in funding to DPSST. This funding will enhance training efforts in collaboration with the State Fire Marshal to better equip our teams to handle these hazardous fires.

At the heart of fire and EMS services is the mission to protect and care for our communities, and we believe this bill moves us closer to achieving that goal.

Thank you for your consideration!