



April 14, 2025

**RE: Support for HB 3505-A**

Chair Pham and Members of the Oregon Senate Committee on Housing and Development:

UA Local 290 Plumbers and Steamfitters, the Plumbing and Mechanical Contractors Association, and the Plumbing Heating Cooling Contractors Association urge your support for House Bill 3505-A.

HB 3505-A looks to ensure that critical life and property saving fire sprinklers are installed in residential units without increasing their cost due to additional SDC fees. The bill ensures that local governments are not charging SDCs for the fire sprinkler system itself, while maintaining their ability to charge if a customer needs a larger water meter for other purposes.

Residential fire sprinkler systems do not have a daily impact on the water system, and these should not be charged as if they do.

In the rare instance of a fire event the additional water they would use at that moment would be a critical factor in potentially extinguishing the fire early and saving the unit and neighboring structures. This will be very important as we encourage higher density housing.

Early intervention by fire sprinkler systems also could result in significantly less water used if a fire occurs – which is also good environmental policy.

HB 3505-A is an important policy change that will help achieve affordable housing goals while ensuring Oregonian's are as safe as possible with fire sprinkler systems.

Thank you, and we strongly urge your support for House Bill 3505-A.