



**To:** 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  
EMS and Fire Chapter of SDAO

**Date:** April 29, 2025

**Re:** SB 860 – Testimony in Support

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

We are honored to testify in support of Senate Bill 860 on behalf of the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association and the Fire and Emergency Medical Services Chapter of the Special Districts Association of Oregon.

Our organizations benefit greatly from the strong, collaborative relationship we share with the Oregon State Fire Marshal's Office. Senate Bill 860 strengthens and clarifies the State Fire Marshal's authorities, modernizes outdated provisions, and enhances the ability to coordinate and lead fire protection efforts across Oregon.

We particularly support the bill's focus on improving structural fire safety, clarifying liability protections, expanding the Governor's Fire Service Policy Council to ensure broader representation, and providing the State Fire Marshal with the tools necessary to support our communities before, during, and after emergencies.

We appreciate the State Fire Marshal's proactive engagement with the fire service community throughout the development of this legislation, and we believe SB 860 will help ensure a more resilient and effective fire service for Oregon.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We urge your support of Senate Bill 860.