



To: Chair Tran, Vice-Chairs Lewis and Watanabe, and members of the House Committee on Emergency Management 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: February 12, 2026

Re: HCR 201 – Recognizing 75th Anniversary of the Oregon Fire District Directors Association

On behalf of the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association and the Special Districts Association of Oregon's Fire & EMS Chapter we are honored to express our strong support of HCR 201.

HCR 201 recognizes the 75th anniversary of the Oregon Fire District Directors Association, an organization that has shaped the strength, professionalism, and collaboration of Oregon's fire service for generations. The resolution highlights the evolution of fire districts in Oregon and the decades of partnership, training, and advocacy that have helped ensure communities across our state receive reliable, effective emergency response.

For those of us working in the fire service, OFDDA is not just a historical institution, it is a steady partner. Its commitment to education, governance support, and legislative engagement has strengthened every district, from the smallest rural all-volunteer agency to the largest combination fire districts. The Association's work has helped build the cooperative, statewide system that Oregonians depend on every day.

We would like to extend personal gratitude to OFDDA's long-serving Executive Director, Genoa Ingram. Genoa experienced firsthand the devastation that fire can bring when she lost her home in a fire. Yet that loss never diminished her commitment to the mission of Oregon's fire service. If anything, it strengthened her resolve. Her leadership embodies the resilience and dedication that defines OFDDA's 75-year legacy.

On behalf of OFCA and SDAO's Fire & EMS Chapter, we would like to thank the Legislature for recognizing this milestone. Honoring OFDDA's contributions is more than a ceremonial gesture, it affirms the value of coordinated leadership, strong governance, and shared purpose at a time when Oregon's fire service faces increasing complexity and demand.

We respectfully urge your support of HCR 201.