
OREGON Fire Marshals ASSOCIATION

March 6, 2025

Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Senator Golden and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Oregon Fire Marshal's Association (OFMA) we stand neutral on SB-788.

The Oregon Fire Marshal's Association is made up of fire code officials, industry leaders and individuals that are dedicated to the protection of life and property against fire.

OFMA's general concern with SB-788 relates to fire and life safety. For awareness, agricultural exempt structures are not constructed under the state adopt Oregon Structural Specialty Code (OSSC) and do not have the fire and life safety components necessary to safely and effectively alert occupants of an emergency. This may, unintentionally, place occupants at risk. To ensure occupants are safe, a change of occupancy would need to be filed with the local building official to change the occupancy from an agricultural exemption to an A-Assembly occupancy.

OFMA understands the economic benefit and revenue holding events would create. Fire and life safety should be a collaborative effort to ensure fire and life safety codes are met and considered.

Sincerely,

Shawn Olson
Legislative Chair-Oregon Fire Marshal's Association