



E. WERNER RESCHKE
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 55

1 April 2025

To: Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire

Re: Support for SB 83

Chair Golden, Vice Chair Nash and Members of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire,

I am writing in strong support for SB 83. The current state wildfire map is riddled with inaccuracies and it threatens the property values and livelihoods of rural homeowners. Oregonians deserve better — real solutions, not more government overreach exemplified by these maps.

SB 83 follows the lead of House and Senate Republicans in a unified effort to repeal the maps and restore fairness for over 100,000 homeowners. SB 83 will repeal the map and the extreme regulations it places on landowners and homeowners by requiring state agencies to focus their wildfire efforts in areas that are most cost-effective and protect as many resources as possible. The bill also protects access to financial resources that rural communities can use to safeguard their homes.

The legislature has an opportunity to correct past mistakes and bring certainty back to property owners across the state. It is unfair to penalize property owners while our state and federal governments fail to manage our forests and public lands. **This bill empowers rural Oregonians** by allowing them to make decisions on how to manage their properties. Instead of threatening Oregonians with unfair mandates, this bill incentivizes local communities and homeowners to take responsible protective measures to protect their properties, creating a plan that will actually keep Oregonians safe.

The simple fact is that rural Oregonians shouldn't have to fear government-imposed restrictions on their property. **This legislation is a crucial step to undo the damage caused by the wildfire maps** created in SB 762 and protect homeowners from unnecessary mandates and rising costs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Werner Reschke".

E. WERNER RESCHKE

Oregon State Representative, HD 55

The Crater Lake District