



February 6, 2023

Senate Natural Resource Committee
Chair Golden, Vice Chair Girod, Committee Members,

RE SB 82

My previous letter in support of this bill was based on the understanding it was about prohibiting the insurance companies from using the State Wildfire Risk Map. Now, it is my understanding that the bill was only a place holder. The presentation from Mr. Stolfi was detailed about the insurance concerns about Wildfire Risk and how the insurance industry is reacting to the proposed changes in the over-site by the Department of Consumer Affairs. Mr. Stolfi also stated that the prohibition of the use of a state risk map was not a part of the amendment as it is being drafted and he did not intend to add the phobia. I urge that such a prohibition be added to the amendments to the bill when a final draft is produced. As you are aware, the Wildfire Risk Map was withdrawn by the Oregon Department of Forestry less than two months after it was published. The withdrawal is a result of the overwhelming opposition to the map because of mistaken designations and lack of ground verification of map data to name a few of the concerns. Testimony about Wildfire mapping was also presented from the Association of Oregon Counties and County Commissioners that they were not included in the development of the map when they are the best available source for conditions in each county. I ask you to pass this bill to protect land owners by prohibited use of the flawed map by the insurance companies and direct State Forestry and Oregon State University work with each County if the map is revised. I will reserve the ability to make further comment when a full amendment to this bill is produced and available for review.

Respectfully,
Bob Hart
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Rogue River, OR