



# OREGON STATE FIRE FIGHTERS COUNCIL

International Association of Fire Fighters  
AFL-CIO CLC

Dear Oregon State/IAFF Fire Fighter:

Enclosed are the 2024 General Election endorsements from the Oregon State Fire Fighters Council (OSFFC). These recommendations were based on the candidate's responses, voting record and research on the issues that are important to all Oregon Fire Fighters. The following candidates can articulate their support and advocacy on our "Big 5": issues of wages, hours, working conditions, safety, and retirement security.

As you are aware the IAFF Executive Board voted per capita to not endorse the Harris/Walz candidacy, by a razor thin margin of 1.2%. The Oregon State Fire Fighters Council Executive Board met and discussed the outcome of that meeting. We also reviewed our Constitution and Bylaws which instruct us to support the General President, General Secretary Treasurer and the Executive Board in conducting our business. We as a body took the Majority decision not to endorse as our roll as members of a trade union to not go against the decision of the IAFF Executive Board. We hope it is clear to all our members that candidates who support the "Big Five" are apparent to you as union fire fighters and there are many issues that may drive your personal decision on whom to vote for but it is clear on union fire fighter issues who the candidate is to get your vote.

The upcoming legislation session in 2025 starts in January and ends in June. The OSFFC has worked on the following legislation for this session:

- retirement security (lowering age from 53 to 50 for PERS OPRSP)
- correcting discrepancies within workers compensation and PERS
- continuation of apprenticeship funding for firefighters and requesting funding for paramedic apprenticeship.
- banning PFAS in our turnouts.

This endorsement list is based upon the voting record of the elected official as well as their response to the above legislation listed above. I want to point out that increasing the multiplier at this time was not a legislative concept that was moved forward at this time. This is a legislative priority of the OSFFC but didn't garnish the support needed by those on either side of the aisle to get it introduced at this time. We know how important this is for you and will continue to fight for this increase.

Please take note that we have some key races that we would like your support in.

1. House District 21: Kevin Mannix, Republican from Salem. His door has always been open, and he has had the backs of the firefighters when we needed him. His son is a union firefighter in Washington, and he is understanding of the issues that firefighters face in Oregon
2. House District 52: Jeff Helfrich, Republican from Hood River. Jeff is the minority leaders in the house and is a retired Portland Police officer. His voting record early in his career didn't always align with the OSFFC, but his communication and understanding of our issues has increased and we look forward to this continued relationship.
3. House District 53: Emerson Levy, Democrat from Redmond area. Emerson has been a strong supporter of firefighter issues and is a tough race for reelection. Emerson understands the issues that working families deal with daily and we are asking for your support in this race.
4. Senate District 27: Anthony Broadman, Democrat from the Bend area. Anthony's race will replace Sen. Tim Knopp, who has been one of our least supportive members when it comes to PERS related issues.

These four races will be some of the closest during this cycle. Your consideration is appreciated.

As many of you know, we know voting is a personal matter. Your vote matters and your influence on those around is significant. Our families need to know how the candidates and measures effect our livelihood. Please share our endorsements with them.

Your involvement in the political process and support of the OSFFC is essential to maintain our profession as a viable career for years to come. We truly are in this together, we cannot do this alone. We would like to thank you for your commitment and participation in this and every election. If your Senate or House District is not listed, the OSFFC did not take a position on that race.

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[www.osffc.org](http://www.osffc.org)



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Please contact your district vice president, Karl, or me if you have any questions.

In Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan Ferschweiler".

Alan Ferschweiler, Legislative Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karl Koenig".

Karl Koenig, President