



## House Bill 3149

Sponsored by: Rep. Marsh, Rep. Gomberg, Sen. Anderson, Sen. Girod, and Sen. Golden

### CONTINUED FUNDING STABILITY FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS IMPACTED BY WILDFIRES IN 2020

**The Challenge:** In 2020, wildfires raged across Oregon and had devastating impacts for communities and families in their path. Our public schools were not spared, as many students' lives were upended by the loss of their homes and belongings. The displacement of families means lost funding for local schools as our state's funding formula requires funds to follow students.

The Legislature unanimously passed House Bill 4026 in 2022 to provide funding stability through the 2024-25 school year for the impacted school districts.

**HB 3149 extends funding stability for wildfire impacted school districts through the 2028-29 school year by allocating \$38.5 million from the Student Success Act's Statewide Education Initiatives Account to pay for grants to impacted districts for four years.**

#### DISTRICTS IMPACTED =

1. Phoenix-Talent School District in Jackson County
2. Santiam Canyon School District in Linn County
3. Lincoln County School District
4. McKenzie School District in Lane County

### WHY IS THIS BILL IMPORTANT?

**Wildfire recovery efforts are taking longer than expected and our students and their families in impacted districts still need our help.**

- Recovery has proven to be a much longer process than predicted in 2022. For example, just one family in southern Oregon has been able to utilize a HUD-funded transaction as of the end of 2024.

**Enrollment in impacted districts remains below pre-wildfire levels. This means a loss of millions of dollars each year in school funding without this extension.**

- Without passage of this bill, the impacted districts will be facing budget cuts at a time when their enrollments have not yet rebounded and students continue to need additional wraparound supports and services.

**HB 3149 ensures stable funding through the 2028-29 school year.**

- The last thing wildfire impacted communities need to worry about are school budget cuts. The bill ensures stability for the impacted districts and allows them to plan and meet the needs of their students without worry.

#### Contact

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