



Office of Senator Jeff Golden

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 21, 2023

Press Contact:

Tess Seger, Tess.Seger@oregonlegislature.gov

Protections for Homeowners Threatened by Wildfires Passes Oregon Senate

SB 82 enhances insurance carriers' obligation to consider property owner's efforts to reduce wildfire risk in rate-setting and policy coverage decisions and increases information available to policy-holders

SALEM, Ore - Today, the Oregon Senate voted to pass new protections for homeowners in areas threatened by wildfires. Championed by [Senator Jeff Golden \(D - Ashland\)](#), [Senate Bill 82](#) makes clear that insurance companies may not cancel policies or increase premiums for homeowners based on the statewide wildfire risk map. It will also improve transparency on policy renewals and premium decisions related to wildfires by requiring insurers to tell homeowners how they can lower their premiums through home hardening or other wildfire mitigation.

"The principle we're pushing for here is that property owners who've taken all reasonable measures to protect their homes from wildfire should have access to affordable and adequate insurance. We're entering a new era of wildfire danger that calls on the government and the insurance industry to cooperate on behalf of responsible residents who are doing their best to protect their homes and neighborhoods," **said Senator Golden.**

Senate Bill 82 will now proceed to the Oregon House of Representatives for consideration.

###