



OREGON STATE FIRE FIGHTERS COUNCIL

International Association of Fire Fighters
AFL-CIO CLC

October 9, 2026

Dear Oregon State/IAFF Fire Fighter:

Attached are the 2026 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. These candidates can articulate their support and advocacy on our "big 5": issues of wages, hours, working conditions, safety, and retirement security.

At our convention in April of 2026, the following priorities were passed by the delegation. These priorities are then used as a basis for our upcoming legislation session in 2027, which starts in January and ends in June. The OSFFC has worked on the following legislation for this session:

- Retirement security (increasing multiplier from 1.8% to 2%)
- Cancer presumption, ensuring ALL cancers that a firefighter is diagnosed with in Oregon is a presumptive cancer
- Creation of a deferred retirement option plan (DROP) for firefighters in Oregon

This endorsement list is based upon the voting record of the elected official as well as their response to the legislation listed above. Having these legislative priorities does not guarantee that they will pass, but does help elected officials know what the priorities of our firefighters are.

Please take note of some key races that we would like your support in. The following are close races that we would ask you to consider:

1. Senate District 26: Jeff Helfrich, Republican from Hood River. Rep. Helfrich was the minority leader 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.
2. 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 state, and he understands the issues that firefighters face in Oregon.
3. House District 32: Cyrus Javadi, former Republican and now is a Democrat. Of all the interviews we conducted, Rep. Javadi was the most understanding of our priorities as a council and supportive of our legislative concepts. He has voted with the OSFFC 100% on our bills since he has been in office. This will be a tough race, and he could use our support.
4. House District 53: Emerson Levy, Democrat from Redmond area. Emerson has been a strong supporter of firefighter issues and is in a tough race for re-election. Emerson understands the issues that working families deal with daily and we are asking for your support in this race.



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5. 4th Congressional District (federal): Val Hoyle, Democrat from Eugene. The daughter of a Union IAFF labor leader, we don't have a better champion in Congress than Val. She is 100% on our issues at the federal level.
6. Governor Tina Kotek, Democrat. We understand that this is a controversial endorsement and that many of our members do not support her. Governor Kotek is endorsed by the OSFFC because she supports our "big 5" and also all three legislative concepts as outlined in this letter. In our opinion, she is the candidate best suited to help us achieve the legislative goals of the OSFFC.

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

We know voting is a personal matter. We understand that you have personal views that will most likely differ from the views that we have endorsed. These endorsements are carefully considered based upon what will gather the most likelihood of positive legislative success for the issues that were passed during the 2026 OSFFC convention.

If your Senate or House District is not listed, the OSFFC did not take a position on that particular race.

In Solidarity,

Alan Ferschweiler
Legislative Director

Kevin Larson
President