Washington State Association of Fire Marshals
2024 Legislative Priorities

- **Fire Code Safety, Housing Availability and Affordability**
  - Retain essential fire and life safety requirements in new housing options that address the housing crisis and housing shortages.
  - All people are entitled to basic life safety standards where they live and sleep.
- **Fire Code Safety in Directly Legislated Proposals**
  - Provide opinions on directly legislated proposals that modify the fire code. Encourage routing through the State Building Code Council instead of direct legislating these highly technical items.
  - Defend existing codes that provide standards of life safety in buildings, including requirements for fire sprinklers, fire department access, and water supplies.
- **State Fire Marshal's Office / Fire Services Delivery**
  - Ensure WSAFM is a voting member on the Fire Services Delivery policy board, to provide the essential voice for fire code, enforcement, fire prevention and community risk reduction.
  - Strengthen the State Fire Marshal's Office by ensuring sufficient funding and connection to fire code officials and first responders.
- **Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)**
  - Update the RCW to return rule making on WUI to the WAC.
  - Support funding for education for property owners to understand what's in the WUI code including defensible space/firewise vegetation.
  - Support grants to local gvts for wildland risk mediation and implementation of the WUI code.
- **Safety, Training and Education Related to New Energy Technologies (EV/ESS)**
  - Support funding for firefighter training and required safety equipment.
  - Support funding for small and rural agencies to track these systems, update codes and standards, and provide public education about the dangers.
  - Support expedited code development for Washington, responsive to rapid changes in technology.
- **Smoke Control Installation, Testing, and Enforcement**
  - Support changes to RCW 19.27.700-740 to align with national codes and standards regarding the installation and ongoing operation of life safety systems known as "smoke control systems" in large buildings.

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