

House Finance

04/29/2025 Upon Adjournment

SB25-011 Detection Components for Wildfire Mitigation

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

| Name, Position, Representing | Typed Text of Testimony |
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| Matthew Benedict For themselves | <p>My name is Mathew Benedict, I am the Division Chief of Wildfire and Community Preparedness for Red, White and Blue Fire Protection District in Breckenridge. We currently have two Pano AI cameras in Summit County, and both have picked up fires before the 911's start. Here in Summit County, we do not have any shortage of people calling 911 when they see smoke, but the cameras give us amazing intelligence that can both speed up response and make for a much more coordinated and safer deployment of resources. The reality of what we call IA (Initial Attack) is that figuring out access to where we think the smoke is coming from can take a long time. The cameras can give us a lat/long location on a satellite image if more than one camera pics it up so we can often times look at that map and see the roads and trails in the first few minutes. In 2024, we used the camera images several times to both respond to new fires and also determine false alarms which can sometimes result in no apparatus leaving the station which saves money, keep rigs in service for other calls and reduces overall burdens on the system.</p> <p>I highly support SB25-011 and the opportunity for future deployment of more cameras in wildfire prone areas like Summit County.</p> |