



ALEX CUYLER

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DATE: February 28, 2013
TO: House Committee on Judiciary
RE: HB 2548, relating to bail

Chair Barker and members of the Committee:

The Lane County Board of Commissioners has reviewed HB 2548 and is in opposition of this measure. We ask that after today's hearing you table further discussion on allowing a system of commercial bail bonding in Oregon.

Our rationale for coming to this conclusion includes:

- Bail bond agents are not trained to the same degree as police officers, nor does this bill provide assurances that they will receive such training.
- Bail bond companies in other parts of the country develop strips of storefronts adjacent to jails. These kinds of developments are not compatible with the plans that are underway for the area around the Lane County jail, located in downtown Eugene.
- The failure to appear rate in Lane County has far more to do with our ability to provide sanctions than it does with the existence or not of a commercial bail bonds system. In Lane County our jail capacity issue is directly related to the downturn and elimination of federal forest revenues.

Thank you for considering our position on this measure. -- AC