

**ROB BOVETT**  
District Attorney

**KYLIE ANDRISA**  
Deputy District Attorney

**JOE BECK**  
Deputy District Attorney

**MICHELLE BRANAM**  
Deputy District Attorney

**JONATHAN CABLE**  
Deputy District Attorney

**JILL WAGNER**  
Office Manager



**OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
FOR LINCOLN COUNTY**  
225 WEST OLIVE STREET, ROOM 100  
NEWPORT, OREGON 97365  
541-265-4145, FAX 541-265-3461  
[www.co.lincoln.or.us/da/](http://www.co.lincoln.or.us/da/)

**MARCIA BUCKLEY**  
Chief Deputy District Attorney

**BRIAN GARDNER**  
Deputy District Attorney

**ELIJAH MICHALOWSKI**  
Deputy District Attorney

**LAUREN ROBERTSON**  
Deputy District Attorney

**NELLY WRIGHT**  
Deputy District Attorney

**MARCIA THOMPSON**  
Victim Services Supervisor

February 14, 2013

**Written Testimony of Rob Bovett before the  
Oregon House Judiciary Committee  
in Support of House Bill 2553**

Chair Barker, Vice-Chairs Garrett and Krieger, and Representatives Barton, Cameron, Hicks, Olson, Tomei, and Williamson,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in favor of House Bill 2553. It is a simple bill, and may not seem all that important at a larger policy level, but is vital to fix a glitch that has recently arisen in our justice system.

Historically, the preliminary hearing statute, ORS 135.070, provided a week to present a felony case to grand jury (*i.e.*, five judicial days). However, an unintended consequence of unrelated 2003 Oregon legislation undercut the legal basis for interpreting that statute to mean five “judicial” days. As a result, in many Oregon counties, the “week” has now turned into five calendar days, which has unduly compressed and squeezed our grand jury system. There are numerous negative impacts and additional burdens on District Attorneys and our court system, which are particularly acute in smaller counties, where a grand jury is typically convened only once or twice a week.

House Bill 2553 simply restores the *status quo ante*. Please support House Bill 2553, and pass it out of Committee with a “do pass” recommendation.