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INTEGRITY - PROFESSIONALISM - PARTNERSHIP - INNOVATION - COMMUNICATION - EMPOWERMENT

May 13, 2013

Senator Lee Beyer, Chair
Senator Bruce Starr, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Business and Transportation
900 Court St. NE, Room 453
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for HB 3438

Dear Chair Beyer and Members of the Committee:

My name is Ken Johnson, Chief of Police for the City of Fairview and Immediate Past President for the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police. I am here today, urging your support for HB 3438.

HB 3438 recognizes the advancement in technology with regard to accuracy and reliability of photo radar with video capability. This bill would allow any city to operate a photo radar enforcement program in a school zone between the hours of 7am-5pm on a day when school is in session.

Because video is a required component of this School Zone Photo Radar Enforcement Program and due to the improvement in technology, the requirement for a uniformed officer to operate the radar equipment is no longer necessary (when operated in school zones). This bill does, however, require that a police officer must review the video and must approve issuance of a citation for speeding in a school zone.

Passage of this bill will only impact photo radar in a school zone. It does not change the current requirement and restrictions for other photo radar enforcement programs.

As with other photo enforcement programs, the registered owner of the vehicle must be the driver or they can complete a Certificate of Innocence.

Passage of this bill would be an important step in helping us keep our school children safe. In this time of shrinking government resources, we should embrace the advancements in technology that make sense for public safety. This bill makes sense and will help protect our children.

The Oregon Association Chiefs of Police support this bill. The Oregon Sheriff's Association supports this bill. School Superintendents support this bill.

I urge your support of HB 3438 and encourage a DO PASS for this bill.

Thank-You.

Respectfully,

Kenneth D. Johnson
Immediate Past President, Oregon Association Chiefs of Police
Chief of Police, City of Fairview