



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

Department of Public Safety Standards and Training

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DATE: March 19, 2013

TO: House Judiciary Committee
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Wally Hicks
Andy Olson
Carolyn Tomei
Jennifer Williamson

FROM: Eriks Gabliks, Director

SUBJECT: House Bill 3097

Summary: House Bill 3097 would require the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) to study the feasibility of establishing a facility at Mt. Hood Community College.

Background: On October 8, 1961 the first two-week Basic Police Course was held by the Advisory Board on Police Standards and Training at Camp Withycomb in Clackamas, Oregon. After being located on the campus of Western Oregon University in Monmouth for more than 20 years, the new 212-acre Oregon Public Safety Academy was opened in Salem in 2007. With the opening of the new Academy, the training for newly hired city, county, tribal and state law enforcement officers attending the Basic Police Course was increased to 16-weeks.

Public safety training is perishable. Public safety agencies across the state have a need to ensure that their personnel are proficient in the various skills, knowledge and abilities which are essential to serve their communities. This includes classroom training as well as skills training. There are few training venues across the state that allows public safety personnel to receive on-going and realistic training in emergency vehicle operations, firearms, scenario-based training, and other important subjects. DPSST currently does not own or operate any regional training facilities.

Current Discussions: DPSST looks forward with working with the Oregon Legislative Assembly and the various stakeholders in the Mt. Hood Community College community to explore the feasibility of this opportunity.

