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STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 24



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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On behalf of the Oregon Department of Justice:

Colleagues, their service is invaluable in making our communities a safer place to live, work and raise a family. Please consider supporting HB 5018 which is the budget bill for the Criminal Justice Division of the Oregon Department of Justice.

Currently, the Criminal Justice Division is hamstrung by resource constraints. In the 2007-'09 biennium, their division had 75 full time employees, and today despite broader scopes and successfully doing more with reduced resources, we should recognize their financial sacrifices and award them the tools desired to maximize their successful operations.

By cutting the Criminal Justice Division staff by a third has strained the division to the breaking point. Barring funding this biennium, the Titan Fusion anti-terrorism unit will close, eliminating an additional four positions and securing Oregon as the only state without a fusion center which will hinder the process of receiving federal Department of Homeland Security funds and leaving Oregon susceptible to clandestine criminal activity. Furthermore, the demand of ODOJ Criminal Justice Division assistance by local law enforcement agencies has increased, placing further pressure and responsibility upon the underfunded yet determined division.

The ODOJ Criminal Justice Division cannot continue their critical work without significant additional funding. Their priorities are:

- 1). Six positions to retain and keep the TITAN Fusion anti-terrorism unit open: three investigators and three research analysts. Cost \$1.5 million.
- 2). Five positions to retain and enhance CJD operations: Two attorneys, two analysts, and one support staff. Two of these positions are exceptional, experienced prosecutors currently handling major cases. Without additional funding, both of these positions will be terminated, Cost: \$1.6 million.
- 3). Six positions to enhance the Internet Crime Against Children unit: Three agents, one attorney, one analyst and one support staffer. Cost \$1.4 million.
- 4). Twelve positions for an additional organized crime team: Four attorneys, five agents, two analysts and one support staff. Cost: \$2.5 million.

Thank you for your consideration to support HB 5018, and please feel free to contact Legislative Director Aaron Knott (aaron.d.knott@doj.state.or.us) and Criminal Justice Division Director Darin Tweedt (darin.e.tweedt@doj.state.or.us) if you have any questions!