



"Excellence In Service"

Yamhill County Sheriff's Office

Yamhill County Courthouse
535 N.E. 5th Street, Room 143, McMinnville, Oregon 97128-4595

Email: sheriff@co.yamhill.or.us

Business Office (503) 434-7506 • Fax: (503) 472-5330
Jail (503) 434-7507
Emergency 911

Sheriff Jack Crabtree

From the desk of Rep Jim Weidner

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim Weidner".

May 20, 2013

Representative Jim Weidner
c/o Jameson Gideon, C.O.S.
900 Court Street NE, Rm H-387
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Representative Weidner;

I closely follow the trends involving controlled substances through the work done by our interagency narcotics team and my road deputies. I am aware that a disproportionate amount of opiate drug abuse is taking place with the youth of our communities. The illicit use of prescription drugs such as Oxycontin, Oxycodone, Methadone and Morphine continues to rise. This type of drug abuse eventually leads to the use of heroin when addicts find they can no longer obtain prescription narcotics or can no longer afford them.

Inherently, illicit opiate abuse leads to overdose situations. HB3422 would allow Oregon law enforcement to actively and aggressively investigate Len Bias type overdose deaths at the state level, bringing county District Attorney's Offices on board early in the investigation. It would allow for an additional level of prosecution for a Len Bias type statute without relying on the U.S. Attorney's Office adopting the case. I fear that the U.S. Attorney's Office, while highly skilled and aggressive in their prosecution, may become overburdened with case referrals in this current drug climate, forcing them to triage cases brought before them.

Furthermore, I feel that HB3422 would allow for the U.S. Attorney's Office to commit their resources to those Len Bias cases involving high volume drug seizures, drug trafficking organizations, or other factors generally required for federal adoption.

Please consider this my endorsement for HB3422.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. H. Crabtree".

Jack H. Crabtree, Sheriff

*It is the Mission of the Yamhill County Sheriff's Office
to provide our citizens with high quality law enforcement services, in an ethical
and fiscally responsible manner.*