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# **OREGON STATE SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 4022**

**Before the House Veterans' Services Committee / February 4, 2014**

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Chair Matthews and members of the House Veterans' Services Committee:

The Oregon State Sheriffs' Association is comprised of Oregon's 36 elected county sheriffs. Sheriffs take seriously their charge to be "conservators of the peace." Their role in public safety is broad, including routine patrol, investigating crime, search and rescue, marine patrol, jails, community corrections, court security, civil services and the issuance of concealed handgun licenses.

Oregon Sheriffs strongly support adopting the "Kelsey Smith Act" in Oregon. If signed into law this year, Oregon will join Kansas, Nebraska, Minnesota, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Tennessee, Hawaii and Missouri. Kelsey Smith was the daughter of a police officer. At 17-years-old she was kidnapped, sexually assaulted and murdered. Her tragic death compelled her parents to start a movement to ensure law enforcement agencies could use mobile phone location data in a time of emergency to locate someone in danger.

Perhaps the most significant part of the bill is the requirement that mobile service providers provide Oregon Emergency Management with the right contact information to obtain the location data in a time of emergency. Just knowing the right number to call can save precious time and save lives.

It should be noted this data is not for use in criminal investigations or to watch a suspected criminal. This data will be requested and used to find the location of someone who has used a mobile phone to call 9-1-1 or when someone in imminent danger may have a mobile phone with them which may assist in locating them.

Thank you for holding a Public Hearing on this important bill. Oregon Sheriffs urge you to give House Bill 4022 an unanimous "do pass" recommendation to the full House of Representatives.

Oregon Sheriffs stand ready to assist in any way possible to ensure this bill becomes law.

**Oregon State Sheriffs' Association**

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