



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HB 4022

Chief Sponsor: Rep. Matthews

**House Committee on Veterans' Services and Emergency Preparedness
Public Hearing and Possible Work Session February 4th, 2014
1:00 p.m., Hearing Room E**

Good Afternoon Chair Fagan and members of the committee. For the record, my name is, Chris Gorsek, Representative for District 49 encompassing the cities of Troutdale, Fairview, Wood Village, and Gresham. I am here today to speak in support of HB 4022. HB 4022 requires providers and resellers of cellular service to provide, at request of a law enforcement agency, call location information for a cellular device for the of purpose of responding to a 9-1-1 emergency call or an emergency involving risk of death or serious physical harm.

These days, cellphones are rapidly replacing landlines as the main source of communications and our public safety officers should have all the same information they have with landlines. Extending location services would help law enforcement and emergency service personnel respond to an incident faster and if it saves at least one life, it would be worth it. I know from my experience as a police officer and as a criminal justice instructor that having correct location data can save lives. .

As any 911 operator will tell you, the bottom line with any emergency situation is simple. We can't help you if we cannot find you. In an emergency it is often difficult to get details from a caller due to the stress of the situation. Many times when using a cell phone the person calling may not be able to give accurate enough information to lead first responders to their location. They just don't know where they are. If we had enhanced 911 capabilities, the phone would be able to provide that information. Let us take the steps we can to try to ensure that there aren't any more preventable tragedies like the one that happened to Kelsey Smith. On behalf of Kelsey Smith and other victims like her I urge the passage of HB 4022.

