

---

# **OREGON STATE SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SCR 202**

**Before the Senate Rules Committee / February 5, 2014**

**By: Darrell W. Fuller / 971-388-1786 / [fuller\\_darrell@yahoo.com](mailto:fuller_darrell@yahoo.com)**

---



Chair Rosenbaum and members of the Senate Rules 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.

Law enforcement offices across the state, small and large, rely heavily on volunteers to assist in their public safety mission. From Search and Rescue to reserve Deputies and Officers patrolling alongside full-time, paid Peace Officers, these dedicated men and women donate thousands of hours each year to make their communities safer and our Oregon a better place to live. And, sadly, on occasion, these first responders -- who are our friends and neighbors -- make the ultimate sacrifice. Their status as reserve or paid is insignificant when families must be notified that their loved-one has died.

The events of November 3, 2013 which resulted in the death of Oregon City Reserve Officer Robert Libke are still fresh in most of our minds. The official report of the incident was released just this week. For those of us who have read the chronology, it will remain seared in our minds for years.

Adopting this resolution will provide no solace to his widow, his parents or his child. But it should be done. We must always remember those who sacrifice for us.

Adopting Senate Concurrent Resolution 202 will be a constant reminder of the dangers first responders face every day, while giving the family of this hero a visual reminder of the love and appreciation felt by the law enforcement community and the Oregon Legislature.

Thank you for holding a Public Hearing on this important resolution. Oregon Sheriffs stand ready to assist in any way possible to ensure this resolution is adopted. Oregon Sheriffs urge the committee to recommend the full Senate adopt the resolution unanimously and without delay.

**Oregon State Sheriffs' Association**

PO Box 7468 Salem OR 97303 (503) 364-4204 [info@oregonsheriffs.org](mailto:info@oregonsheriffs.org) [www.oregonsheriffs.org](http://www.oregonsheriffs.org)