

SUPPORT HOUSE BILL 4125

The Association of Oregon Counties represents all 36 counties, including the office of Sheriff. There are approximately 1,300 reserve peace officers in the State of Oregon, many of whom are reserve sheriff's deputies. These individuals are fully trained and receive continuous field and classroom training like their full-time counterparts. Reserve Deputies are invaluable assets to counties in their duties like patrol support, community event security, and other mission-oriented details. With these duties, they face the same dangers as full-time deputies and should be treated the same when it comes to protections under state law.

We also support the bill's effort to increase penalties for those individuals convicted of trying to kill peace officers. The example from Benton County that led to this bill is a testament to the dangers that our law enforcement face while trying to protect the community.

With our counties facing emergencies, we need to make sure our current law enforcement staff and volunteers get the protection they need and deserve.

The AOC Legislative Committee, through its Public Safety Committee, voted unanimously to support HB 4125.

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