



To: **Members of the House Judiciary Committee**

From: Kevin Campbell, Executive Director
Oregon Association Chiefs of Police

Darrell Fuller, General Manager
Oregon State Sheriffs' Association

Date: February 20, 2014

Re: **Testimony in Support of SB 1531A with adoption
of the - A7 & A8 amendments**

Chair Barker and members of the House Judiciary Committee,

On behalf of the Oregon's Sheriffs and Police Chiefs, please accept this letter of support for SB 1531-A with the adoption of the – A7 & A8 amendments. In its current form, SB 1531A would only clarify that local governments can regulate marijuana dispensaries with regard to time, place and manner. We urge the committee to add language to clarify that cities and counties also have the authority to ban dispensaries in their jurisdictions by adopting the – A7 amendment. We believe strongly that the leaders of each local jurisdiction, by virtue of their election, have an important responsibility to weigh public safety challenges and the needs of local residents as they discern the most appropriate approach to if and how they site marijuana dispensaries. Because the circumstances and needs of local residents will vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, we strongly believe that decisions regarding marijuana dispensaries should be a local option including the ability to ban dispensaries altogether.

As currently constructed, the medical marijuana dispensary system is largely unregulated with a clear need for additional sideboards and protections. While our associations would recommend additional improvements to this statute over time, we strongly support the important changes included in the – A8 amendments that seek to provide the Oregon Health Authority with clear authority to regulate the packaging of THC-infused products to prevent overt marketing to youth. Oregon's law enforcement leaders are deeply concerned about the potential for marketing efforts that are targeted at young people and we are already seeing packaging that is clearly intended to appeal to a young audience in other jurisdictions.

Thank you for supporting HB 1531A with adoption of the – A7 & A8 amendments.