



OREGON COALITION OF POLICE & SHERIFFS

February 20, 2015

Representative Mitch Greenlick
Chair, House Committee on Health Care
Oregon State Capitol, H-493
Salem, OR 97301

Re: House Bill 2825

To Representative Greenlick,

The Oregon Coalition of Police and Sheriffs wants to express its support of the values and principles underlying HB 2825, providing for various mental health services.

Services that keep individuals with mental health issues in treatment or care facilities rather than out on the street are helpful. A frequent complaint of police officers is the lack of non-jail facilities available for persons with mental health issues. Services that keeps individuals with mental health issues in treatment or care facilities rather than out on the street are helpful to law enforcement.

Oregon's police officers should not be the first line response to individuals with mental health issues. A more robust mental health services safety net can yield better outcomes for subjects, officers, and the public at large.

The Oregon Coalition of Police and Sheriffs supports maintaining a smart, appropriate, and effective safety net of social services, especially those addressing mental health challenges.

Respectfully,

Daryl Turner
President, Oregon Coalition of Police and Sheriffs

Cc: Rep. Keny-Guyer
House Committee on Health Care