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Oregon State Sheriffs' Association

Conservators of the Peace

February 25, 2015

The Honorable Senator Richard Devlin, Co-Chair
The Honorable Representative Peter Buckley, Co-Chair
The Honorable Senator Chip Shields, Co-Chair of Public Safety Sub-Committee
The Honorable Representative Jennifer Williamson, Co-Chair of Public Safety Sub-Committee
Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE, Room H-178
Salem, OR 97310

Dear Co-Chairpersons and Committee Members.

My name is Pat Garrett; I am the Washington County Sheriff and secretary of the Oregon State Sheriffs' Association. I'm here today on behalf of the Oregon State Sheriffs' Association who are in support of the District Attorney's state funding request.

As you are aware, District Attorneys are an important part of our local Criminal Justice Systems. District Attorneys uphold the laws and constitution of our state and country, protect victim rights and ensure justice in our communities. They make decisions on the appropriate way to hold individuals accountable for their actions, give voice to our most vulnerable victims of crime, and collaborate on regional and state working groups to tackle contemporary justice system challenges we all face.

State funding for activities described in the Oregon District Attorneys Association's testimony are an important part of continuing their good work for rural communities, urban centers and everything in between. Detectives, deputy sheriffs, police officers, victims, witnesses, police chiefs and sheriffs depend on District Attorney's Offices to have the capacity to support our investigative efforts and, more importantly, the overall public safety system. I ask that you support the District Attorney's Association's funding request for the 36 elected Oregon District Attorneys. Much of our entire justice system depends on our support to their good work.

Thank you for your consideration and allowing me to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Pat Garrett".

Pat Garrett
Secretary, Oregon State Sheriffs' Association
Sheriff, Washington County

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