



# OREGON COALITION OF POLICE & SHERIFFS

March 10, 2015

Representative Jeff Barker  
Chair, House Committee on Judiciary  
Oregon State Capitol, H-284  
Salem, OR 97301

Re: House Bill 2704 – Support **with amendments**

To Representative Barker,

The Oregon Coalition of Police and Sheriffs supports HB 2704, which clarifies that Oregonians are permitted to film on-duty police officers, so long as the bill is amended to ensure that interfering with the officer's lawful duties is not permitted.

Oregon's public safety officers rely in large part on a trusting relationship with the general public. We all want our officers to conduct themselves in a manner befitting that trust. Filming police officers, while in public and while on duty, does not in and of itself impede officers' ability to do their jobs.

We do, however, want to emphasize the need for amendments that clarify that "interfering with" an officers' duties is still prohibited by law.

Additionally, we suggest adjusting Section 2 of the bill to promote maximum consistency with other recording statutes, which require those filming to make an effort to notify others that they are being recorded.

Our understanding is that this bill would still allow officers to protect and preserve scenes, establish and enforce perimeters, and issue lawful orders that are otherwise provided for in statute – regardless of whether an individual is filming. Further, it is our understanding that this bill does not give an individual filming officers the right to follow officers into otherwise private settings, such as a third-party's home.

Respectfully,

Daryl Turner  
President, Oregon Coalition of Police and Sheriffs

Cc: House Committee on Judiciary