



**To: Members of the Public Safety Subcommittee
of Ways and Means**

**From: Chief John Teague, Keizer Police Department
Oregon Association Chiefs of Police**

Date: March 30, 2015

Re: Testimony in Favor of the TITAN Fusion Center (SB 5516)

Chair Williamson and Shields and members of the Public Safety Subcommittee of Ways and Means, my name is John Teague and I am the Chief of Police for the City of Keizer. I am here today on behalf of the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police to express our support for the work of the Oregon TITAN Fusion Center.

The Fusion Center is the primary hub for the distribution of sensitive and timely information about active and potential, significant criminal activities in Oregon. The members of the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police rely upon the TITAN Fusion Center to provide this critical information.

In the days before terrorism became a local concern, law enforcement agencies could and did operate quite independently. Today, we cautiously realize that a threat elsewhere may quickly become a threat here; however, law enforcement officials do not have to rely upon media reports and other informal methods of information-gathering to know how to respond: the Fusion Center shares the information that allows local agencies to respond—or not respond—appropriately.

The Oregon TITAN Fusion Center is a robust, centralized clearinghouse for situational awareness briefs, information bulletins, and officer safety alerts, relying upon decentralized Fusion Liaison Officers, stationed within law enforcement agencies, who are trained to recognize and report the types of incidents that the Fusion Center should be aware of. For example, the theft of a propane delivery truck may be more than a local theft. The Fusion Center is the only organization capable and responsible to share that seemingly innocuous, local theft; search, nationally, for others like it; and provide information to synthesize those reports.

The members of Oregon Association Chiefs of Police support the Oregon TITAN Fusion Center program and consider it to be essential to Oregon's public safety.