



Date: March 11, 2015

To: House Veterans Committee Members

From: Chief Pete Kerns P.K.

RE: **Memorandum of Support for HB 2919, 9-1-1 Call Location Data**

In concert with other Lane County Area PSAPs, Central Lane Communications supports the passage of HB 2919 to eliminate the reporting requirement related to the disclosure of call location information of the cellular device used to call 911.

This reporting requirement was established during the 2014 legislative session, as part of HB 4022. In addition to requiring cellular service providers to provide location information for wireless phones at the request of a law enforcement agency for emergency purposes, HB 4022 also directed the office of Oregon Emergency Management (OEM) to maintain a central database of contact information for cellular service providers. OEM has contracted with a vendor to create this database, and the vendor is authorized to spend \$69,222.00 from 911 tax dollars for phase one of the project.

The use of 911 tax dollars for this purpose is concerning when Lane County PSAPs are struggling to adequately fund regular operations. HB 4022 passed in response to an incident in 2007, where wireless carriers took four days to respond to a location identification request when Kelsy Ann Smith went missing in Kansas. Oregon PSAPs have an excellent working relationship with the wireless carriers and have always found them very responsive to PSAP needs under emergency circumstances.

We did not and still do not believe that HB 4022 solved or will solve an existing problem. It does, however, create additional workload for Oregon PSAPs who are already struggling with increased demands, while diverting needed funds from those PSAPs to create an unneeded layer of reportage.

The passage of HB 2919, by eliminating the reporting requirement, will allow 9-1-1 tax dollars to continue to fund PSAPs in the State of Oregon.

