



To: Members of the House Judiciary Committee

From: Kevin Campbell, Executive Director
Oregon Association Chiefs of Police

Date: April 27, 2015

Re: Testimony in support of SB 343 (Authorized Tribal Police Officer Authority Sunset Removal)

Chair Barker and members of the House Judiciary Committee, my name is Kevin Campbell and I am the Executive Director of the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police. I am here today on behalf the OACP to support SB 343.

During the 2011 Legislative Session, our association supported SB 412 as an important and necessary solution to address the ambiguity surrounding the authority of our Tribal police officers. By every measure, the implementation of this measure over the last few years is a real success story. We strongly support removing the sunset provision in order to create a secure and permanent path for Tribal police departments moving forward.

Working in partnership with Tribal Police Departments in Oregon is nothing new to the members of the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police. In fact, all of our Tribal police chiefs are active members of our association and the partnerships that exist between our city police departments and Tribal police departments are critical to the public safety mission all departments share. SB 412 included a number of important provisions including:

1. Required Tribal police officers to successfully complete the 16 weeks of DPSST basic training and meet all ongoing maintenance training standards like all other police officers.
2. Required Tribal police supervisors to meet the management and executive certification requirements of the state so that police officers are supervised by certified police supervisors.
3. Provided DPSST with clear authority to decertify a Tribal officer if they fail to meet the professional/ethical requirements of an Oregon Police Officer.
4. Required that Tribal police officers have all the tools of a police officer including the requirement that they be armed.

We believe the provisions of SB 412 provided clear authority to Tribal police officers contingent on the compliance of Tribal governments with requirements outlined in the measure. These are professional requirements that our Tribal police chiefs were anxious to embrace and in most cases, were already doing voluntarily. We strongly support SB 343.