



OREGON COALITION OF POLICE & SHERIFFS

April 29, 2015

Rep. Jeff Barker
Oregon State Capitol, H-480
Salem, OR 97301

Rep. Jennifer Williamson
Oregon State Capitol, H-283
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Body Cameras / HB 2571 – SUPPORT as amended

Dear Rep. Barker and Rep. Williamson:

The Oregon Coalition of Police and Sheriffs has closely followed HB 2571, and we are pleased to offer our support and endorsement of HB 2571-A (as amended by the 2571-6 amendments).

This version of body camera legislation provides sufficient guidance at the State level while allowing local jurisdictions the ability to develop policies that make sense for their unique communities.

We also believe that this version provides adequate protections for officers to conduct casual conversations, welfare checks, and to interview sensitive witnesses without what some individuals may find an intrusive use of recording equipment.

After discussions with staff and committee members, it is also our understanding that the existing protections around public records will prevent footage from being subject to wanton public records requests before the completion of any associated legal proceedings (although the footage may be used as a part of those proceedings in an investigatory or evidentiary capacity).

We are pleased that ORCOPS was part of this successful collaborative effort between stakeholders on many sides of this issue. House Bill 2571-A has ORCOPS' support.

Respectfully,

Daryl Turner
President, Oregon Coalition of Police and Sheriffs

Cc: House Committee on Judiciary