

HB 2571

FROM THE DESK OF  
CARL WILSON

Oregon  
Newspaper  
Publishers  
Association



Oregon  
Association of  
Broadcasters

On behalf of the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association (ONPA) and the Oregon Association of Broadcasters (OAB), we ask you to vote **no on House Bill 2571**, the police body camera bill, on the basis that the bill significantly restricts the transparency the legislation is intended to increase.

The enrolled bill restricts access to the captured footage under public records law and requires police agencies to blur all faces prior to releasing the footage.

This adversely affects transparency to the public we serve.

We understand the need for this important legislation and are asking for the legislature to take the time to listen to more thoughtful input. We believe a solution exists that will balance the concerns for privacy with access to the records for transparency.

With a small change, access could be much improved and we could support the legislation.

We are concerned this legislation will inhibit accurate, transparent reporting of the activities of the police agencies. However, we don't wish to make this about law enforcement; it's about preserving the constitutionally protected first amendment rights of the media and a news organization's ability to gather news.

Oregon's more than 120 news outlets and 200 radio and television stations spread around the state appreciate your consideration of this bill.

Thank you for your attention.

Dave Baker  
ONPA Board President  
The Register-Guard Eugene

Keith Shipman  
Chair of the OAB Board of Directors  
Horizon Broadcasting Group, LLC

Laurie Hieb  
ONPA Executive Director

Bill Johnstone  
OAB President and CEO