

From the office of  
Sen. Michael Dembrow



**Association of Oregon Corrections Employees  
Urges your Support of HB 2213**

When the definition of "employment relations" was expanded in ORS 243.650(f) in 2007 it gave corrections officers, police officers, firefighters, parole and probation officers, dispatchers, certain OYA staff, and deputy district attorneys the right to bargain over safety issues that have an impact on their on-the-job safety.

Over the past several years, these law enforcement officers throughout Oregon have used that change to ensure a safe and secure working environment for the men and women who have dedicated their lives to these dangerous, critical professions.

The current law only applies to strike-prohibited employees. Within the Department of Corrections there are many individuals that don't meet this definition. While they're treated as strike-prohibited for purposes of bargaining, and cannot strike, they do not meet the statutory definition of strike-prohibited emergency and public safety personnel and therefore cannot bargain over on-the-job safety issues.

These Corrections Professionals work alongside officers with convicted felons on a daily basis. They have direct inmate contact, suffer the same safety challenges (whether it is a lack of fire protective gear in Special Housing, providing syringes to inmates on Death Row to self-administer insulin, or supervising inmates who are using power tools) yet they do not enjoy the same safety bargaining rights.

HB 2213 will level the playing field for Corrections Professionals at DOC. Their safety and security is just as important as the Corrections Officers they work side by side with on a daily basis.

**Please vote YES on HB 2213**