



OREGON COALITION OF POLICE & SHERIFFS

February 9, 2016

Senator Floyd Prozanski
Oregon State Capitol, S-415
Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: Senate Bill 1550 – SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS

Senator,

On behalf of the Oregon Coalition of Police and Sheriffs (ORCOPS) and our members, I want to offer our support of SB 1550 with the 1550-3 amendments, which provides for the recordation of grand jury proceedings. This bill will help add to Oregonians' confidence in a fair and accountable criminal justice system.

Last session, we expressed deep concern about a similar measure. Our concerns were in regard to the sensitivity of certain witnesses and in regard to record release provisions that were too open-ended. We feel that the measure as amended by the 1550-3 amendments will go a long way to satisfying those concerns. Of particular note is the provision of protective orders for victims, witnesses, and confidential informants. Some testimony has centered around allowances of hearsay testimony for protective purposes, and we would support that option as well.

This measure is a step toward greater confidence in our public safety system, and we look forward to continued involvement in future discussions.

Thank you for your attention to this issue.

Respectfully,

Daryl Turner
President, Oregon Coalition of Police and Sheriffs

Cc: Senate Committee on Judiciary