

OREGON COALITION OF POLICE & SHERIFFS

February 9, 2016

Senator Mark Hass Oregon State Capitol, S-207 Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: Senate Bill 1513 - SUPPORT

Senator,

On behalf of the Oregon Coalition of Police and Sheriffs (ORCOPS) and our members, I am offering our support of SB 1513, which allows a county to provide property tax relief to surviving spouses of firefighters and law enforcement officers killed in line of duty.

Our law enforcement departments and agencies have procedures in place in the event of a death in the line of duty. It is something that our members understand is a possibility every single day. But it is never something we are fully prepared for.

And as much as we can offer counseling, community support, or an honorable end of watch, the circumstance of losing one of our own will always have deep and long-lasting effects to those affected – both family members and fellow officers.

Senate Bill 1513 can provide very real comfort to families by alleviating some of the financial burden that is left to a slain officer's family. It is further fitting that the assistance is provided by the body politic for which our fallen brother or sister dedicated their career – and their life – to protecting.

Thank you for your attention to this issue; we urge your support of SB 1513.

Respectfully,

Daryl Turner

President, Oregon Coalition of Police and Sheriffs

Cc: Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue