



Association of
Oregon Counties

LANE COUNTY COMMISSIONER PAT FARR

Testimony to the Joint Ways & Means Subcommittee on Public
Safety - SB 5532
3/1/17

Co-Chairs and Members of the Subcommittee – My name is Pat Farr.
I’m a Lane County Commissioner and also here to represent the
Association of Oregon Counties.

I’ve had the honor of both serving as a colleague to you here in the
Legislature and also in the national guard.

I served in the National Guard, starting with the 1249th Engineers. I
received my commission in 1979 and transferred to the 2-162nd
Infantry, where I served in A, B, C and HQ companies. I commanded
Charlie Company for a short time.

AOC is extremely proud of the work of military department in its
support for all Oregon Counties. We would like to thank General
Stencel, Colonel Stuckey, and Director Phelps for their continued
leadership and support to Oregon Counties.

Lane County was hit hard in December with an ice storm, causing
damage throughout the county. In close cooperation with the office of
emergency management, we were able to work through the process of
an emergency declaration.

We also enjoy a strong partnership between OEM’s 9-1-1 staff and our
local 9-1-1 center.

These partnerships and relationships are critical at all times, especially when disasters hit.

At AOC, we have formed the Sister County program, which pairs up counties to assist each other and work with OEM for disaster response and recovery efforts. So far, approximately 8 counties have joined in this effort and we appreciate OEM's assistance in this process.

We strongly urge the legislature to fund the department at a level necessary to continue all of these successful initiatives.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today and again, we thank the department and its leadership for their continued assistance and support.