



To: Members of the House Human Services and Housing

From: Kevin Campbell, Executive Director
Oregon Association Chiefs of Police &
Oregon State Sheriffs' Association

Date: March 28, 2017

Re: Concerns with HB 2930

Chair Keny-Guyer and members of the committee, for the record, my name is Kevin Campbell and I am here today on behalf of the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police and the Oregon State Sheriffs' Association to express concern regarding HB 2930.

As written, HB 2930 would require a law enforcement agency that receives a report of child abuse to:

- Determine the military status of the parents or guardians of the child who is the subject of the report.
- Notify the Oregon Military Department and a Department of Defense family advocacy program (if established in the state) if a report of child abuse involves a child whose parent or guardian is in the military.

While we can't support the new investigation requirements included in HB 2930, we are committed to work closely with Representative Boone, our partners at DHS and other stakeholders to improve the way child abuse cross reporting is currently handled in Oregon including consideration of the necessity of determining the military status of a parent or guardian. This would be an excellent issue to add to the agenda for Unified Child and Youth Safety Implementation Plan during the interim as there are a number of potential ways to improve the child abuse cross-reporting process.

In particular, one of the most difficult challenges that law enforcement agencies face when receiving a report of child abuse from DHS is the lack of specific information about where the alleged abuse actually occurred. Many times this information is not listed in the report narrative and additional follow-up is required by investigators simply to determine what law enforcement agency has jurisdiction. This can be a significant impact, particularly on smaller agencies and we believe some adjustments to the cross-reporting process could expedite investigations. These changes would benefit all parties involved.

We look forward to working on these issues and appreciate the opportunity to express our concerns.