



**To: Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee**

**From:** Sheriff Jason Myers, Marion County  
Oregon State Sheriffs Association

**Date:** April 25, 2017

**Re: Support for HB 2618-A**

Chair Prozanski and members of the committee, for the record, my name is Jason Myers. I am the Marion County Sheriff and I am here today on behalf of the Oregon State Sheriffs Association to support HB 2618-A.

Oregon's County Sheriff's perform a wide range of public safety services beyond traditional policing and community corrections that include the serving of summons, subpoena's, citations, orders and notices for a wide range of civil actions, suits and proceedings where a fee is charged. The purpose of HB 2618 is to seek an increase in these fees to address the increased cost to Sheriff's offices for performing these responsibilities. Currently, there is no provision in statute for increasing these fees based on cost of living and the last time we approached the legislature to adjust these fees was in 2009. At the time, we testified to actual cost for serving a document by the second attempt was anywhere from \$70 to 80 so our request today is not designed to recover the actual cost.

By comparison, surrounding states in 2009 charged between \$35 and \$45 for service per person but unlike Oregon, they also charge for a return of service fees, mileage (without limit) and notary fees. By statute, we do not charge these extra fees.

In HB 2618, as originally introduced, we included a provision that would allow these fees to be increased based on cost of living over time. The bill tasked the State Court Administrators office with the responsibility for calculating any increases based on the Portland-Salem, OR-WA Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers for All Items as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor. We removed this provision on the House side when we realized that the State Court Administrator was not the appropriate entity to task with this responsibility and the Chair asked us to seek a solution here in the Senate. With the permission of the Chair and the support of the committee, we would like to ask for a short period of time to bring back an alternative recommendation to address this issue.

Thank you for your consideration.