



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

**From:** Kevin Campbell  
Oregon Association Chiefs of Police and  
Oregon State Sheriffs' Association

**Date:** February 14, 2017

**Re: Testimony in Support of HB 2594**

**Chair Barker and Members of the House Judiciary Committee,**

On behalf of the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police and the Oregon State Sheriffs' Association, please accept this letter of support for HB2594. This measure would provide a path for citizens from the three independent nations that are parties to a Compact of Free Association (COFA) with the United States to seek law enforcement employment without surrendering their citizenship in the country of their birth.

Under the provisions of COFA, citizens of the Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands who live in the United States are afforded recognition and liberties to include educational opportunities, immigration and the ability to serve in the U.S. Military.

As municipal and county law enforcement agencies continue to seek well-qualified candidates for law enforcement positions, the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police and Oregon State Sheriffs' Association fully supports this legislation. Police agencies welcome the opportunity to consider applicants for law enforcement positions who are covered under the Compact of Free Association.

We encourage your support for HB 2594