

Oregon Law Enforcement Memorial Fund

Dedicated to the wellness and safety of Oregon's first responders and their families

SCR 8 Deputy Roy Dirks, SCR 9 Deputy Carlton Smith and SCR 10 Robert Riley For Senate Rules Committee hearing on February 22, 2017

Chair Burdick

My name is Mary Nunnenkamp. I am the Chair of the Oregon Law Enforcement Memorial Fund. This board consists of Malheur County Sheriff Brian Wolfe, representing the Oregon State Sheriff's Association, Retired Hubbard Police Chief David Dryden, representing Oregon Association Chiefs of Police, Linn County Sheriff's Office Senior Deputy Chris Houdek, representing the Oregon Peace Officers Association and Mr. Jim Whitehead, parent survivor of Multnomah County Sheriff's Reserve Mark Whitehead and director of the Oregon Chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors. I am also a proud retiree of the Washington County Sheriff's Office.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today. I am honored to represent the line of duty death survivors who are seeking to have their loved one remembered through the Oregon Fallen Officer Memorial Highway Sign program established in 2011. It's been my honor to work with these families, some for many years, and others over the past year.

Through my work with the Oregon Law Enforcement Memorial Fund, I've gotten to know many of our line of duty death survivors quite well. One survivor father told me that he passes his son's sign nearly every day and it means so much to him. These signs are very meaningful to family, coworkers and their community.

When the law enforcement community experiences a line of duty death, we make a promise that is very important to us. We promise to never forget. We promise to support our survivors for as long as they need us. These signs represent one more way for us to keep that promise. These highway memorial signs are incredibly important to them.

The Oregon Law Enforcement Memorial Fund is proud to purchase the sign for Deputy Dirks, Deputy Smith and Deputy Riley to eliminate any expense to the state, the law enforcement agency, or the family.

I urge a yes vote on these SCR's. I am happy to answer any questions.

Mary Nunnenkamp, Chair – Oregon Law Enforcement Memorial Fund