

Hello, I am not sure if this is the correct email to submit this to but I have some testimony in regards to police reform that I heard will be covered in the special session. I am a former police officer in Oregon so I think I offer a little insight that many don't have.

I am now in the dental industry and here in Oregon, just like in all other states, we have a board of dentistry who handles licensure and investigates complaints from the public against individual licensees. If that licensee is found to be in violation of the rules and regulations of the state, they can have a variety of disciplinary actions levied against them, including personal monetary fines and license suspension/revocation etc. The discipline comes from the state, not their employer. The discipline action is then entered into the national database so it will follow them wherever they go.

There is no reason why police officers and all law enforcement in Oregon cannot have a similar licensure system as dentistry and many other disciplines in Oregon. They can be required to have individual licenses that are to be renewed bi-annually. They can have continuing education (CE) requirements that they are required to obtain themselves on their own time (not paid for by their employer unless the employer chooses) and then certify when they renew their license that they actually did the CE. There is already the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training intact so this could be an easy addition by establishing a section who oversees the licensure and enforcement and the fees collected can fund that extra staff needed. Complaints can be investigated by non-bias people who the licensee does not work with/for who actually train all police officers to assure they are acting in accordance to the states original training (I cannot tell you how many times complaints were swept under the rug because the officer was friends with administration.) This will also loosen the grasp unions have by allowing a state entity with access to the state attorney generals office to suspend/revoke a license instead of an employer who doesn't have the funding to fight the certain union lawsuit. And a national database could be created so a police officer can't just move to a different city or state and get a job with a department because their former department either overlooks a past incident in fear of a lawsuit or they just want to flush a turd out of their department and disclosing an incident would likely plug the drain. The accountability to the public would be incredibly improved, in my opinion. And, if anyone counters my recommendation with the accreditation process many police departments go through - I've been through a couple of those and they are an absolute joke when it comes to individual accountability.

Thanks for forwarding my ideas to the correct email since i got the wrong one!

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