

Dear Co-Chair Courtney, Co-Chair Kotek, Co-Vice Chair Girod, Co-Vice Chair Drazan and members of the committee,

I am a student at Oregon State University. I aspire to work in emergency management. With this career, I am going to have to consider the limitations and faults of our police system. I am going to have to consider the considerate racial bias that often results in a black person dead. I am going to have to consider the fear from queer folx, especially trans folx, that the police may brutalize them.

I am going to have to consider the fear that women feel if they are left alone with male police officer(s). And these fears are just not there because of a 'few bad apples', but because the system does not allow for victims to pursue justice against police officers in a manner with respect and protection.

How am I supposed to work on making sure our emergency paths are going to help as many people as we want, when we allow corrupt police and the system to inspire fear of those in uniform? How is help supposed to be delivered if we can't trust those delivering it?

Thank you for listening.