



July 29, 2020

Co-Chairs Senator Manning and Representative Bynum, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) of OR, we respectfully state our support for Legislative Concept 744.

LC 744 represents another step towards transparency regarding police misconduct. We sincerely hope that this is not the last piece of legislation that will be enacted in this area.

We endorse a model of policing that firmly establishes active community input throughout all levels of Oregon's police departments. This model is not one that solely relies on "oversight" or after-the-fact investigations even when conducted by members of the community, but one where, for example, citizens have an opportunity to identify and prevent misdirection and misconduct before it takes place. This process would include, for example, community review of training protocols and Field Training Officer requirements. Rather than maintaining a system that focuses on law enforcement, we need one that fields peace officers that serve and protect Oregon's communities and its citizens.

Establishing a clear, reliable and consistent reporting system for police misconduct is an essential component to maintaining fair and effective policing. This fairness must extend not only to police officers but to the community as well.

We support LC 744's clarification of who constitutes a "supervisor," including the Bureau of Labor and Industries. Setting specific timelines also ensures that simply reporting misconduct will end the matter and that no investigation will ensue.

This proposed legislation does not, however, reach the issue of when and how information regarding misconduct will be publicly disseminated. Presumably the intent of Section 2 of LC 744 is to at least establish a database that will document misconduct. We support that process.

We are concerned that the maximum 72-hour time frame for reporting misconduct is too lengthy. If the misconduct is severe enough to warrant a fellow police officer's report, then it should be made no longer than 24 hours after the misconduct takes place. Such a lengthy time frame fails to support the officer making the report and increases the possibility that the misconduct will not be fully and fairly investigated.

Respectfully submitted,

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