

SB 576 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary

Prepared By: Channa Newell, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 3/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes Kaylee's Law. Applies limitations to private security professionals and special campus safety officers employed at institutes of higher education. Requires nationwide criminal records checks of all private security providers or special campus security officers serving institutes of higher education. Requires vehicles to have global positioning system device and video cameras. Requires retention of data and video for at least 90 days. Requires uniforms worn by officers conform to rules developed by the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST). Requires DPSST to develop standards on campus security vehicles, including clearly identifying the vehicle as campus security, prohibiting the use of red and blue light bars, prohibiting use of ramming bumpers, and prohibiting use of cages. Requires prompt notification to local law enforcement when campus security makes probable cause arrest and prohibits retention of evidence. Specifies that private security professionals and special campus safety officers do not have stop and frisk authority. Allows employment of retirees as special campus security officers without hour limitations as specified in ORS 238.082.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon's seven public universities are given statutory authority to establish police departments and commission sworn police officers. The universities may also commission special campus security officers who have stop and frisk and probable cause arrest authority, but are not considered police officers and may not carry firearms. Other institutes of higher education utilize private security professionals for security services on campus. These private security professionals are certified by the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) and undergo 14 hours of training prior to receiving certification. Private security providers may not use a name that implies it is connected with an existing law enforcement agency.

On July 24, 2016, a campus security officer employed by the Central Oregon Community College in Bend, Oregon, kidnapped, sexually assaulted, and killed Kaylee Sawyer. The officer utilized his security vehicle, uniform, and tools to commit his crimes.

Senate Bill 576, Kaylee's Law, requires background checks of all individuals employed as campus security, whether as a private security officer on a community college or private campus, or a special campus safety officer on a university campus, to undergo a nationwide criminal records check. The measure also requires campus security vehicles to have GPS and video recording and such data be kept for 90 days. Use of accessories or tools that would confuse with law enforcement are prohibited, such as red and blue light bars, bumpers, and cages. Additionally, the measure removes the stop and frisk authority of special campus security officers.