

To Chair Williamson and Members of the House Judiciary Committee

I am writing you in opposition of disarming campus police officers. I am both a college graduate and the sister of a campus police officer.

I remember when my brother first started working for campus safety at University of Oregon. At the time, they were not police officers and had very few tools in which to do their job. I remember a particular time when a transient had tried to drown one of my brother's coworkers in the mill run. Being in a large city and being right by I-5, the campus sees a great deal of crime. There were many situations that campus safety had to call city police in for. That delayed response time and efficiency.

My family and I were all scared but relieved when they finally made UofO campus safety into a police department. Now they had the training and tools to deal with the immense scope of situations that consistently arise at that campus.

Now, a group of people want to take away an important tool for police officers on campus. Nothing has changed about the situations that the department has to deal with. Only now, they will have to go into dangerous situations, being expected to make it safe. But now they won't have that important tool that can give control of a situation. Do you send a cop into a shooting with only a tazer and pepper spray? Or wait for the off campus police to arrive? Or do they have to go get their gun from the station and waste precious time to respond to an emergency?

For the sake of the people they are meant to protect, please do not disarm campus police. My neices deserve to have their father come home safe. Students attending the university deserve to know that someone is there and able to protect them.

Thank you,

Nicole Geeting