

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

**Department of State Police
Law Enforcement Mental Health Grant**

On February 20th, the Public Safety Subcommittee recommended approval of the submission of a federal grant application from the Department of State Police to the U.S. Department of Justice in the amount of \$125,000 to improve the delivery of and access to mental health and wellness services for law enforcement officers.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that police officers have a higher risk of incurring a work-related injury or illness than most other occupations. The Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act grant program provides funds to states and other organizations to improve the delivery of and access to mental health and wellness services for law enforcement. The Oregon State Police propose to use the grant funds, if awarded, to establish a peer support mentor team to provide one-on-one support and guidance after an employee's on-duty traumatic situation or off-duty personal crisis. Peer support team members would receive qualified training to provide appropriate mentor support and/or referrals to other professional resources when needed.

No matching funds are required for this grant. If the grant is awarded, the agency may return to the legislature to request additional Federal Funds expenditure limitation and position authority, if needed.

The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends approval.