



**To: Members of the Committee On The
First Special Session of 2020**

From: Sheriff Tim Svenson, 1st Vice President
Oregon State Sheriffs' Association

Chief Jim Ferraris, President
Oregon Association Chiefs of Police

Date: June 25, 2020

Re: Testimony re HB 4205-4 – Duty to Intervene

Good morning Co-Chairs Courtney and Kotek and members of the Committee on the First Special Session of 2020,

On behalf of the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police and the Oregon State Sheriffs' Association, please accept this testimony regarding HB 4205-4, a measure designed to clearly identify circumstances when an officer has the responsibility to intervene to prevent or stop another officer from prohibited acts.

We are in support HB 4205 with adoption of the dash 4 amendment. Most Oregon Law enforcement agencies have had policies in place that require law enforcement officers regardless of rank to intervene if they observe a criminal violation or use of force by another officer that is not justified. Law enforcement has advocated for adding additional reasons for intervening to include sexual harassment, discrimination and violation of credentialing minimum standards which this bill includes. The one item we would like to clarify is the reporting to a supervisor. We would suggest language that directs reporting to a supervisor of the employing agency.

With the speed at which these measures were crafted and the speed the special session is moving, there are pieces of this measure that may have unintended consequences. We would ask, that if unintended consequences are discovered, we be allowed to suggest adjustments to policy in future sessions.

I'd like to ask the committee to consider removing the emergency clause from this measure. While we agree on the urgency of implementing this public policy, it will take time for agencies to create policy based upon this measure and then create and deliver training on this policy to our Law Enforcement Professionals across the state.