



**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 4207-6 – Police Misconduct Database
Legislation**

**Good afternoon 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 in support of HB 4207 with adoption of the dash 6 amendment. This measure is designed to increase the transparency of police officer certification records. Law enforcement leaders in Oregon are committed to working with the legislature to ensure that the results of certification proceedings are public including the disclosure of the officer, department and disposition information.

The dash 6 amendment also requires law enforcement agencies to request and review personnel records from all law enforcement agencies at which an applicant was formerly employed before extending an offer of employment. The amendment grants agencies that comply with the requirement to request or provide personnel records immunity from civil liability. This requirement and the liability protection that accompanies it will help ensure that agencies have access to information necessary to make informed hiring decisions and will increase public confidence in agency employment decisions.

Finally, the dash 6 amendment to HB 4207 codifies in statute the findings that result in action by the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training to deny, suspend or revoke the certification of a police officer.