

To: Members of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Equitable Policing

From: Jeff Wood, Undersheriff - Marion County Sheriff's Office

On behalf of the Oregon State Sheriffs' Association & Oregon Association Chiefs of Police

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Date: March, 3 2021

Re: Testimony in support of HB 2575-Trauma Informed Practices Act

Chair Bynum and members of the committee,

On behalf of the Oregon State Sheriff's Association (OSSA) and the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police OACP), thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 2575, the Trauma Informed Practices Act.

OSSA and OACP would like begin our remarks by thanking Rep. Marsh and her staff for reaching out and engaging both associations as this measure was being crafted.

OSSA and OACP have a record of embracing best practices and applying them to the public safety services our members provide to communities in Oregon. We view HB 2575, the Trauma Informed Practices Act, as a best practice when Public Safety Officers are interacting with members of our community, particularly individuals who have been a victim of a violent crime or traumatic incident.

As written, HB 2575 tasks the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training, in consultation with the Department of Justice, to develop trauma-informed best practices for public safety officers when they encounter a victim who has been subject to a violent crime. It also requires Law enforcement agencies to adopt these best practice policies in keeping with the specific needs of their communities. Finally, HB 2575 establishes a grant program to fund training for groups and agencies that interact with persons who have experienced trauma. These grants will fund model training programs that include community partnerships, are research and best practice based and that focus on techniques that minimize further trauma.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide this testimony and I'm happy to answer any questions the committee might have.

OSSA & OACP – PO Box 7468, Salem, OR