



OREGON ASSOCIATION CHIEFS OF POLICE
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OREGON STATE SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION
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To: Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation

From: Jason Myers Executive Director
Oregon State Sheriffs' Association
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Kevin Campbell, Executive Director
Oregon Association of Chiefs of Police
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Date: April, 5 2021

Re: Testimony regarding SB 421-Law Enforcement Misconduct Database

Chair Prozanski 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 with concerns with SB 421-Law Enforcement misconduct database.

The Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) currently maintains a public facing database for decertified officers. This measure as written would transfer database responsibilities from DPSST to the Department of Justice. As the agency responsible for credentialing all public safety professionals and for overseeing the Board on Public Safety Standards and Training that reviews decertification proceedings, we believe that DPSST remains the appropriate place for the database to be located. Transferring the database management to the Department of Justice would result in a fiscal impact and would require law enforcement agencies to report information subject to certification review to two separate entities. Ensuring that the proper information is sent to the proper agency is important to Law Enforcement Executives and having two separate agencies responsible for information may lead to mistakes or incorrect reporting. For these reasons, we believe any database related to law enforcement officer misconduct should continue to be the responsibility of DPSST.

With regard to the provisions in SB 421 that specifically identify misconduct that law enforcement agencies are required to report, we believe that limiting reporting to officer misconduct that results in sustained economic discipline is both in the public interest and preserves officer due process. We are hopeful the committee will consider the following language as an alternative to the current bill language:

“Within 10 days after an economic sanction as part of discipline imposed on a police officer has become final and the arbitration process is complete, the law enforcement unit that imposed the discipline shall report on the discipline to the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training. The report must include:

- 1) The name and rank of the officer disciplined;
- 2) The name of the law enforcement unit at which the officer is or was employed; and
- 3) A description of the facts underlying the discipline imposed, including a copy of any final decision.”

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony and we would be happy to answer any questions the committee might have.