

As the member of a police family, I adamantly oppose HB 2932, and my partner's information potentially being publicly accessible. I am connected to law enforcement by proxy, yet my children and I are forced to endure the same trauma, threats, insults, and disparagement that my spouse faces each day.

Police officers work in a complicated, multi-faceted, constantly changing vocation. Members of the general public who do not have the experience or exposure to law enforcement information or education, perceive any and all actions by police officers as wrong, offensive, and otherwise inappropriate, even if those actions are not. The simple act of creating a public list to "track" use of force, implies that an officer has engaged in inappropriate conduct. In fact, uses of force are a regularly used tactic, commonly defined as the amount of effort required by police to compel compliance by an unwilling subject.

Particularly during the last year, members of the public of have publicly slandered our police officers simply for being police officers. This has had a damaging, dangerous, direct impact on our police families including children. It has become dreadfully clear that any information about police officers accessible on a public list can and will be used to intimidate and make threats against them, and us, their families. The death threats and threats of harm and intimidation to both me and my children have been unconscionable. Please do not contribute this flawed intention during a time that has already generated so much trauma.

The intent behind a publicly accessible list seems to only achieve the goal to shame or humiliate those officers who are simply trying to keep themselves and others safe. While I do not oppose information being compiled regarding use of force, requiring Oregon agencies to enroll and report data to the FBI National Use of Force Database is sufficient and will not put families in danger.

We need to stay safe. All of us, including our police officers and families. The dangerous and vile threats that are still being made to us will only get worse with the publication of a list that has no context for situations that are complicated.