



Clackamas County Sheriff's Office

ANGELA BRANDENBURG
Sheriff

January 26, 2021

Re: Letter in Support of SB 211

Dear Chair Senator Prozanski, Vice-chair Senator Thatcher and members of the Committee:

For the record, I am Clackamas County Sheriff Angela Brandenburg and I am writing in support of SB 211, to urge you to secure the future of public safety across our state. As Oregon's population grows, it is time to right-size the Department of State Police (OSP) to maintain patrol trooper staffing levels of at least 15 patrol troopers per 100K residents by 2030.

Here in Clackamas County, state troopers are indispensable to public safety. During the devastating wildfires of 2020, OSP troopers provided extra patrol in the evacuation zones helping us to maintain order, and also assigned an OSP supervisor to our Sheriff's Office Operations Room enabling direct communication with troopers working in the field. Likewise, OSP command staff joined the Clackamas County Emergency Operations Center to coordinate efforts and provided a bridge to other state agencies, like ODOT. Simply, OSP was our single greatest partner in the evacuation process. I can tell you, adequate trooper staffing directly impacts the success of emergency operations and our ability to save lives.

Outside of emergency operations, we rely on OSP every day to help keep our roadways safe. We have two major interstates (I-5, I-205) that run through Clackamas County as well as state highways 212, 224, and 26. Our deputies rely on troopers to help cover public safety incidents that occur on these roadways, so that they may address the ever-increasing demand in calls for service as our county population grows.

In addition to patrol assistance, our Major Crimes Team relies on the depth of OSP's investigative experience, along with their access to statewide resources, to assist in investigative leads around the state. Our Detective Division often partners with OSP detectives on major crime investigations like homicides, officer involved shootings and other large profile crimes. Having OSP as an investigative partner is central to providing an investigation with a robust set of experiences and assets.

Both the wildfires and the civil unrest of 2020 demonstrate that OSP operations are central to public safety in Oregon. Every day troopers help keep our highways and interstates safe. As our state grows, SB 211 recognizes troopers are and will continue to be essential partners in keeping our communities safe.

As Sheriff of Clackamas County, I urge you to support SB 211.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Angela Brandenburg'.

Angela Brandenburg, Sheriff