

May 12, 2021

MMC

Metropolitan Mayors' Consortium

Mayor Lacey Beaty

City of Beaverton

Mayor Brian Hodson

City of Canby

Mayor Jeffrey Dalin

City of Cornelius

Mayor Gery Schirado

City of Durham

Mayor Brian Cooper

City of Fairview

Mayor Peter Truax

City of Forest Grove

Mayor Travis Stovall

City of Gresham

Mayor Tom Ellis

City of Happy Valley

Mayor Steve Callaway

City of Hillsboro

Mayor Ken Gibson

City of King City

Mayor Joe Buck

City of Lake Oswego

Mayor Mark Hardie

City of Maywood Park

Mayor Mark Gamba

City of Milwaukie

Mayor Teri Lenahan

City of North Plains

Mayor Rachel Lyles Smith

City of Oregon City

Mayor Ted Wheeler

City of Portland

Mayor Walt Williams

City of Rivergrove

Mayor Keith Mays

City of Sherwood

Mayor Jason Snider

City of Tigard

Mayor Randy Lauer

City of Troutdale

Mayor Frank Bubenik

City of Tualatin

Mayor Anne McEnery-Ogle

City of Vancouver (ex officio)

Mayor Jules Walters

City of West Linn

Mayor Julie Fitzgerald

City of Wilsonville

Mayor Scott Harden

City of Wood Village

Senator Floyd Prozanski, Chair
Senator Kim Thatcher, Vice-Chair

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation

Re: Support for HB 3164A

Dear Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher and Members of the Committee,

The Metropolitan Mayors' Consortium (MMC) represents the mayors of twenty-five cities in the Portland Metro Area, collectively home to over 1.7 million Oregonians. The MMC writes to express its support for HB 3164A.

The mayors of the MMC believe that under current statute, members of the BIPOC community and houseless individuals are too often arrested because of an officer's frustration, miscommunication, or bias toward that individual. There are of course instances where the situation warrants an arrest because an individual was interfering with the officer. However, data has shown that time and again, these arrests are biased and are made for minor infractions.

HB 3164A makes changes to statute by clarifying that the crime of interfering occurs only when a person "intentionally or knowingly acts" in a manner that prevents an officer from performing their lawful duties regarding another person.

The MMC urges the committee's support for HB 3164A and appreciates the efforts made by the Oregon Legislature to pass meaningful police reform legislation.

Sincerely,

The Mayors of the MMC