



OREGON ASSOCIATION CHIEFS OF POLICE
EXCELLENCE IN POLICING

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OREGON STATE SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION
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To: Members of the House Judiciary Committee

From: Kevin Campbell, Executive Director
Oregon Association Chiefs of Police
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Jason Myers, Executive Director
Oregon State Sheriffs' Association
jason@oregonsheriffs.org

Date: March 2, 2023

Re: Testimony in Support of HB 3036

Chair Kropf and members of the committee,

For the record, my name is Kevin Campbell, and I am the Executive Director of the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police. I am here today on behalf of the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police and the Oregon State Sheriffs' Association to offer testimony in support of HB 3036.

It is unlawful for drivers and motorists to pass a school bus on either side while the stop-arm is extended, and the red lights are flashing. HB 3036 would permit an education provider to operate a video recording device for the purpose of recording persons who fail to stop for bus safety lights. The bill also enables law enforcement to issue a citation to those who fail to stop based on the recording data. Oregon law already allows a bus driver to report a violation to law enforcement and a citation can be issued based on the report. A citation for failure of a vehicle to stop for a school bus costs \$312 and four demerit points. A citation for an illegal right turn in front of a stopped school bus costs \$312 and three demerit points. If reported by a school bus driver, the vehicle owner's liability for the illegal passing of a bus will cost \$312 with no demerit points. According to the National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services (NASDPTS) 2019 Stop Arm survey, "130,963 school bus drivers reported that 95,319 vehicles passed their buses illegally on a single day during the 2018-19 school year."

For law enforcement officers, safety is a top priority, and we believe that creating accountability for those who place the safety of students at risk is important. Law enforcement is currently experiencing a workforce crisis that is limiting law enforcement presence and traffic patrol resources. When officers do observe a violation of the law, officers must take the risk of stopping and citing a motorist into consideration due to the presence of children. HB 3036 would provide an additional tool to hold motorists accountable for violations of the law that put students at risk, as well as result in better awareness of the law and decreased violations.

Thank you for your consideration.