



**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 Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans**

**From:** Kevin Campbell, Executive Director  
Oregon Association Chiefs of Police  
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Jason Myers, Executive Director  
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**Date:** March 23rd, 2023

**Re: Testimony in Support of HB 3426**

**Chair Grayber and members of the committee,**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. 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 3426.

This measure recognizes the need for access to mental health professionals during crisis who are specially trained to understand the unique forms of trauma our police officers and other emergency responders experience. Due to the distinct work realities that law enforcement experience daily, they are frequently faced with exposure to traumatic events, high levels of stress and expectations, demanding schedules, and a potential increased risk of substance abuse. Listed above are just a few of the many reasons why naming law enforcement in 988 trainings as a high risk and specialized population is essential in ensuring law enforcement has access to the resources and support they need at times of crisis

Not only do law enforcement officers frequently face violence, accidents, natural disasters, high expectations, demanding and inconsistent work schedules, injury, and even loss of life, they often don't have access to appropriately trained mental health professionals to help them navigate crisis and trauma. HB 3426 acknowledges the trauma that law enforcement officers experience and the need to have access to professional services.

Thank you for your consideration.