



To: Members of the House Judiciary Committee

**From:** Jason Myers, Executive Director

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Oregon Association Chiefs of Police

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**Date:** May 10, 2023

Re: Testimony in Support of SB 808A

## Chair Kropf and members of the committee,

For the record, my name is Kevin Campbell, and I am here today on behalf of the Oregon State Sheriff's Association (OSSA) and the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police OACP) to provide testimony in support of SB 808A.

This measure makes technical changes to provisions relating to Commission on Statewide Law Enforcement Standards of Conduct and Discipline. The commission was created through the passage of HB 2930 during the 2021 Legislative Session, a measure that was part of the police reform package of bills that was passed between the 2020 Special Sessions and the 2022 Legislative Session.

SB 808A makes the following changes designed to improve the operational effectiveness of the commission:

- Removes the appointing authority of the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) and leaves those eleven members previously jointly appointed by DPSST and the Attorney General (AG) to be appointed solely by the Department of Justice;
- Specifies that public notice for adopting rules is subject to the Administrative Procedures
  Act. Modifies the calculation for the number of members who are needed to approve
  commission action from the majority of members present to the majority of voting
  members.
- Designates the Attorney General as the chair of the commission, in lieu of the commission members electing one person from DPSST and one person from the Department of Justice to serve as co-chairs.

- Clarifies that reports to the Legislative Assembly are due annually.
- Modifies the definitions of "law enforcement agency" and "law enforcement officer" for purposes of the measure.

We believe SB 808A modifies the provisions of HB 2930 to increase the operational efficiency of the commission by identifying the Department of Justice as the entity responsible for administrating the commission and for appointing its membership and by removing non-voting members from the calculation of members necessary for the commission to act. The commission is a very important part of the police reform package passed over the past few years and its work will result in consistent standards for police officer discipline that will serve the public that depends on the integrity and competence of their law enforcement agencies and officers for their safety.

Thank you for your consideration.