

Submitter: Henry Balensifer
On Behalf Of: City of Warrenton
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee
On Public Safety
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5533

The City of Warrenton acknowledges the vital contributions of the Oregon National Guard to both our national defense and to state and local disaster response efforts. Their unwavering commitment to service has provided invaluable support to communities across Oregon.

Our city has directly benefited from numerous programs facilitated by the Oregon National Guard, including Innovative Readiness Training, the Oregon Youth Challenge Program—where many of our young residents have found great success—Starbase STEM initiatives, levee repair projects, the construction of public facilities, and most recently, cybersecurity audits. These programs have strengthened our infrastructure, enhanced educational opportunities, and improved overall community resilience.

As President of the Oregon Mayors Association, I can personally attest to the critical role the Oregon National Guard plays in supporting cities across the state. Their dedication and partnership have been instrumental in advancing local initiatives, responding to crises, and ensuring the well-being of our communities. The Oregon National Guard stands as a trusted and indispensable ally to cities throughout Oregon.

We urge you to vote to recommend passage of SB5533.

Respectfully,
Henry A. Balensifer III
Mayor, Warrenton