

Jake Kamins

Senate Committee On Labor and Business  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

February 1, 2026

Re: SB 1569

Honorable Chair Taylor, Vice-Chair Hayden, and Members of the Oregon Senate Committee On Labor and Business:

I am writing to urge you to vote to advance SB 1569, a bipartisan bill that would move the criminal prosecutors at the Oregon Department of Justice (DOJ) into the Police and Fire tier of PERS.

Oregon's Deputy District Attorneys (DDAs) and District Attorneys (DAs) were moved into the Police and Fire tier of PERS in 2023 and 2024. This left the small team of lawyers in the Criminal Justice Division (CJD) at DOJ as the only PERS prosecutors in Oregon not in that tier. CJD attorneys do the same work as DDAs and DAs, facing the same risks and traumas, with the added complication that we regularly work hundreds of miles from our homes.

I work in CJD as the state's Animal Cruelty Resource Prosecutor. In addition to animal cruelty, the CJD team prosecutes all kinds of serious and complex crimes: Pollution, public corruption, aggravated murder, the distribution of child sexual abuse materials, and elder abuse, just to name a few. We travel to the state's smallest counties alone and prosecute defendants who are surrounded by their friends, neighbors, and relatives. Additionally, CJD attorneys stand in for elected DAs, including colleagues of mine who have had to move hundreds of miles away from their homes.

CJD attorneys do this work because we believe in criminal justice, in upholding the constitution and the state's laws, and in protecting our state's most vulnerable victims. Basic fairness would dictate that we be treated similarly to DAs and DDAs.

Thank you for your consideration.



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