

January 30, 2025

Good morning Chair Taylor, Vice-chair Hayden and members of the committee,

For the record, my name is Robin Roostandy, and I am Police Identification Technician with the Portland Police Bureau.

I have worked for the Portland Police Bureau for 18 years. I have been an Identification Technician for the last 6 years.

While fingerprinting inmates, I am in direct contact with them. I have printed individuals who have head lice, body lice, or contagious diseases like staph and MERSA. Other times I have printed people covered in feces and urine.

My environment is often unsafe. People who are intoxicated, under the influence, or are suffering from mental health crisis are often unpredictable. This means I have to print people handcuffed or restrained to prevent them from getting physical with me.

Also, there have been times when I get off work and an individual I fingerprinted earlier in the evening has been released and is loitering around the building. I am always fearful that they will follow me or attack me.

I support SB 1569 because fingerprinting in a correctional setting carries the same inherent risks as other PERS Police and Fire positions. It is time to close the gap in our retirement benefits and provide the same protections that our counterparts across the state already receive for this identical work.

I urge this committee to vote yes on SB 1569.

Respectfully,

*Robin Roostandy*