

Submitter: Merri Steele

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management and Veterans

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4091

Honorable Chair Thuy Tran and Members of the House Committee on Emergency Management and Veterans.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 4091 that provides guardrails in regard to the activation of the Oregon National Guard.

I watched from afar as the White House once again provoked tension in Portland to make political points rather than protect the citizens from genuine dangers that local law enforcement could manage. Fortunately, Judge Immergut closed the door on the reckless and wasteful activation of the Oregon National Guard. That series of events convinced me that guardrails for the activation by the Guard need to be set sooner rather than later, even if the courts rule against Oregon in some future dispute. Thus, I support the Oregon Legislature's effort to clarify the relationship between federal and state roles as described in HB 4091.

Thank you.

Merri Steele