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On Behalf Of: self
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4138

Dear Representatives

This legislation is a health and safety for community members and police/immigration officials alike. Law enforcement deserves to work in a community with pride and respect. They should be identifiable by office and face and name. Yes, undercover and plain clothes work is police work. Undercover work is inherently dangerous and does not involve public acts of enforcement.

Masked and unmarked or vaguely identifiable officers are at great risk of being mistaken for muggers, thieves or people intending to cause harm. They are at greater risk of being assaulted in self defense or in proactive community defense. They should be in formal uniforms (no hats or vests or other apparel with weird insignia) with their badge and names visible.

Local law enforcement is intended to protect and serve local communities. Their duties should not be 'federalized' without explicit agreements on a case by case basis. Local officers should protect the public from random acts of violence, coercion and bullying.

HB 4138 moves Oregon in the direction of safer and saner communities. Please pass this legislation quickly.