

Oregon Council of Police Associations Representing Public Safety in Oregon

Date: February 26, 2015

To: House Judiciary Committee

Re: House Bill 2348

The Oregon Council of Police Associations appreciates the opportunity to support HB2348 with the -1 amendments. Currently, specified populations are exempt from the prohibitions regarding carrying concealed weapons in public buildings. Those exemptions currently include on-duty police officers, but not off-duty officers or honorably retired officers.

With the amendment, HB2348 will clarify that off-duty and honorably retired officers are afforded the same rights to carry concealed weapons in public buildings that individuals with valid concealed handgun licenses (CHL) are granted. The amendment is required to include both honorably retired officers and off-duty officers, this was the original intent of the bill, the amendment simply corrects a drafting error.

Because of their high level of training and experience, police officers should be allowed the same privileges as CHL holders and the other exempt populations that currently exist in statute. This change will reduce confusion and the sometimes inconsistent enforcement of the current law.

Thank you for your consideration, we respectfully request your support of the amended HB2348.