



**Andy OLSON**  
**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**  
DISTRICT 15

February 5, 2018

Chair Jeff Barker  
House Committee on Judiciary  
Hearing Room 347  
Salem, OR

Chair Barker and Committee Members,

**Re: HB 4056...Fallen Public Safety Officer's Children's Education Fund**

Thank you for the opportunity to come in front of you to explain what HB 4056 is all about.

Currently, there are two programs that administer some financial support to fallen or disabled public safety officers. DPSST administers the Public Safety Memorial Fund. The program provides available memorial fund benefits that include a \$25,000 lump sum payment, health and dental reimbursement (for eligible spouse or designee for five years or until remarriage, and for children/dependents until age 18 or 23 if full-time student), up to 12 months of mortgage payments and scholarship considerations.

The other program is administered by HECC, the Deceased or Disabled Public Safety Officer Grant. The funding for this program runs out fairly quick.

HB 4056 combines the definition from both programs for eligibility making HECC the *gatekeeper* for disbursements. Section 4 of the measure describes the eligibility criteria.

In 2005, the Legislature passed HB 3457 which was a complete rewrite of the Civil and Criminal Asset Forfeiture laws in Oregon. Currently, the law directs law enforcement agencies to submit 20% of asset forfeiture proceeds to the drug court program, 10% to Relief Nurseries, 5% to the DEQ Clean-up fund, and 2.5% to the Asset Forfeiture Counsel. This bill directs law enforcement to deduct an amount equal to 10% of the forfeiture proceeds and deposit that amount in the Oregon 529 College Savings Plan Subaccount established under ORS 178.320 for disbursement to the scholarship program for family members of public safety officers established under ORS 348.270.

How did we get here? Representative Brad Witt and I met with several survivors. At this point, I would like the spouses share their stories of how we got here.

I urge your support of this measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andy Olson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'A' and 'O'.

Andy Olson