

February 11, 2019

Senate Committee on Judiciary Oregon State Capitol 900 Court St. NE, HR C Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for SB 437

Dear Chair Prozanski and Members of the Committee:

The City of Hillsboro is proud of the tradition of community-based policing that has resulted in both a high level of public safety service and a strong connection to our diverse community. Our police officers and other public safety employees are some of our most dedicated public servants, and they put their life and safety on the line every day to protect the safety of Hillsboro residents and others who work in and visit our city.

The City of Hillsboro's core values are reflective of our community's expectations and our code of conduct and employment policies are informed by those values. As it stands, current law does not explicitly reference local policy as a condition of enforceability of arbitration awards that order reinstatement of police officers or other public safety employees when disciplined for violations of our code of conduct or employment policies. SB 437 appropriately clarifies the law to ensure arbitrators are considering violations of local policy, along with state law and judicial decisions, when deciding whether or not to reinstate or relieve a police officer subject to discipline under local policy.

SB 437 is an important policy change that would help ensure our ability to uphold the City's core values and maintain and build upon strong relationships with the community.

We urge your support.

Kind Regards,

Lee Dobrowolski Chief of Police City of Hillsboro