

Oregon AFSCME Asks for your Support of SB 507

Oregon AFSCME represents 27,000 workers statewide include many in the public safety sector from corrections officers to emergency dispatchers. These members work in some of the most stressful situations and at some of the most challenging worksites in the state. Many of these workers experience extremely traumatic events on a regular basis as part of the work they do every day to keep our communities and families safe.

SB 507 covers correction staff and also includes firefighters, police, community corrections and other public safety workers. Under SB 507, when a worker experiences a traumatic event on the job, it will be easier for them to receive the support they need to deal with that Post Traumatic Stress Injuries. By creating a rebuttable presumption of PTSI due to their job it responsibly supports the workers during one of the most trying times, when they attempt to get help following a single traumatic event or several years of repetitive traumatic experiences. With all the stress and strain on these workers mental health, it is important when they seek help, they are not denied unfairly or must fight tooth and nail to get the support they need.

SB 507 with the -8 amendments passed out of the Senate Rules committee with a Do-pass recommendation and is officially supported by MLAC, the Management-Labor Advisory Committee. This version balances the needs of Public Safety workers with the making sure the Workers Compensations system is still sustainable.

These public safety workers put their lives and their mental health on the line every day to keep our families and community safe. It's our time to be there for them when they need us. It is for these reasons that Oregon AFSCME urges your Aye vote.

From the Desk of
Senator
James Ivory Manning Jr.

