



**To: Members of the House Judiciary Committee**

**From: Jason Myers, Executive Director**  
Oregon State Sheriffs' Association

**Kevin Campbell, Executive Director**  
Oregon Association Chiefs of Police

**Date:** February 5, 2020

**Re: HB 4097 – TriMet Fare Inspection**

**Chair Sanchez and members of the Committee,**

On behalf of the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police and Oregon State Sheriffs' Association, please accept this testimony regarding of HB 4097. As you know, sixteen police agencies are part of a partnership to provide public safety services through an agreement with TriMet. The purpose of this testimony is not to oppose HB 4097 but to raise a few concerns and to seek clarity.

We understand that the intent of the legislation is to prohibit a “police officer from conducting or participating in activities intended to determine whether person has paid certain user charges, fees or tolls imposed by mass transit district”. We want to make sure that the bill doesn’t prevent an officer from being present on a train or platform where a fare inspector is performing their work. We would suggest language in this bill to reflect “a Law Enforcement Officer’s mere presence does not constitute participation in fare inspection activities” as a remedy to these concerns. The intent of this proposed language is to avoid placing our law enforcement officers in a position of unknowingly violating the law or placing riders at risk, if there is a need for Law Enforcement presence on a particular train or platform.

We thank you for this opportunity to provide input on this bill and are available to answer any questions you might have. Thank you for your consideration.