



**OREGON ASSOCIATION CHIEFS OF POLICE**  
EXCELLENCE IN POLICING

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**OREGON STATE SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION**  
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**To: Members of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Equitable Policing**

**From:** Jason Myers, OSSA Executive Director  
On behalf of the Oregon State Sheriffs' Association and the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police  
[Jason@oregonsheriffs.org](mailto:Jason@oregonsheriffs.org)

**Date:** March, 8 2021

**Re: Testimony-HB 2162 with -1 amendment**

**Chair Bynum and members of the committee,**

On behalf of the Oregon State Sheriff's Association (OSSA) and the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police (OACP), thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB2162 with the -1 amendment.

OSSA and OACP would like to thank the Governor for convening a Task Force (that included both associations) which was tasked with making recommendations on improvements to training and the certification process the Department of Public Safety Services (DPSST) provides to Oregon Law Enforcement Professionals. While DPSST is widely recognized as a nationwide model for Police Training and Certification, we acknowledge that improvements and a continuous review of best practice is important and necessary.

OSSA and OACP are generally supportive of the conceptual objectives identified today which will become the -1 amendment to this measure. As always, we are hopeful we will have an opportunity to provide more detailed feedback to the committee once the amendment is posted and available for review.

We support efforts in the concept designed to identify the additional number of hours of equity training needed for basic police officer training, the addition of members of the public to the Board on Public Safety Standards and Training, requiring officers to take equity training to maintain their law enforcement certification and tasking DPSST with the responsibility for developing and delivering the training statewide.

We do want to note a few potential concerns based on the concept that was submitted to Legislative Counsel that may be resolved in the drafting process. For example, the concept uses terminology like "indicative of bias" and "discriminatory intent" to describe actions that require mandatory decertification of an officer by the Board on Public Safety Standards and Training.

We are hopeful that these terms and the “acts” that constitute the type of policing the measure is trying to address will be objectively defined in the final draft.

We understand there are additional concepts from the task force that will be included in a dash 2 amendment that deal with police agency accreditation. We look forward to working with the Governor’s office and this committee as this measure continues to take shape.

Finally, there are a number of measures introduced this session that recommend additional training hours for the basic police training course and for police officer maintenance training. We continue to believe that investments in additional training is critically important as one of the keys to increasing public trust. I can’t emphasize enough how resource strapped police agencies are throughout the state, and particularly our smaller and rural agencies. We believe that impact of additional maintenance training hours should be carefully evaluated and that DPSST funding for regional training be appropriated to ensure our agencies have access to the required training.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide this testimony and I’m happy to answer any questions the committee might have.