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TO: Senate Committee on Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110

RE: SB 621

DATE: March 2, 2021

Chair Prozanski, Vice Chair Thatcher, Members of the Committee:

Multnomah County supports the passage of SB 621.

The passage of SB 621 would allow the voter approved community police oversight board the ability to investigate reports of misconduct, impose disciplinary actions and recommend policing policies to the Portland Police Bureau and the Portland City Council.

Community leaders in the City of Portland have been asking for a new system of independent oversight of law enforcement for years. The public calls for racial justice and police accountability are undeniable. Legislation like SB 621 is essential to ensure there are the right tools to investigate potential misconduct and hold law enforcement accountable when appropriate.

Multnomah County supports SB 621 so that Portland's Community Police Oversight Board can do the job that voters empowered it to do.