



*From the office of*  
**REPRESENTATIVE KARIN POWER**  
**House District 41**

Chair Bynum, Vice Chair Noble, and members of the subcommittee,

For the record, my name is Karin Power and I represent House District 41. It is my honor to bring House Bill 2481 for your consideration today.

In the summer of 2020, Portland law enforcement, with the assistance of federal agents, deployed rubber bullets, tear gas, and flash-bangs for more than 100 days as clashes with protestors intensified before our eyes. We witnessed mothers and daughters, fathers and sons, repeatedly exposed to military-grade crowd control devices, resulting in injuries, lawsuits, and thousands of complaints filed with the city.

These horrific images made headlines across the country. Politicians, advocacy groups, activists, and concerned citizens alike began to question the role these tactics play in our society and how the line between the police, and the militarization of the police, had become so blurred. This problem extends beyond Portland's city limits. Police agencies across our state have used the 1033 surplus program, for decades, to receive combat warfare-grade equipment at low-and-no cost in the name of keeping the peace.

While some police departments have found no use for these weapons, others have taken full advantage of these programs, causing harm, trauma, and long-term health effects that will undoubtedly impact the most vulnerable among us. In short, the militarization of the police has eroded the trust of people that they have sworn to protect and serve. It is because of this erosion that a coalition of Black organizers emerged to form Reimagine Oregon; a community-led effort to divest and reinvest in Black communities and provided the impetus for this bill.

We must also acknowledge the unfortunate burden placed on the shoulders of countless community organizers to rectify this issue. It is because of their pain, their resilience, and their hard work that I am here in support of HB 2481. This bill seeks to rebuild trust by limiting the agencies from receiving certain military surplus equipment from the federal government's 1033 program. Since the beginning of the program, the Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO), estimates that over \$7.4 billion of property has been transferred and more than 8,000 law enforcement agencies have enrolled.

Here in Oregon, many departments have received ordinary equipment, such as jackets, boots, goggles, and other basic department needs. However, below is a spreadsheet illustrating the mine resistant vehicles received by departments across the state:

BAKER CTY SHERIFF DEPT	MINE RESISTANT VEHICLE	1	Each	\$658,000.00	Sep 10, 2013 12:00:00 AM
CLACKAMAS COUNTY SHERIFF OFFICE	MINE RESISTANT VEHICLE	1	Each	\$658,000.00	Sep 12, 2013 12:00:00 AM
COOS COUNTY SHERIFF DEPT	MINE RESISTANT VEHICLE	1	Each	\$658,000.00	Oct 19, 2016 12:00:00 AM
DESCHUTES COUNTY SHERIFFS OFFICE	MINE RESISTANT VEHICLE	1	Each	\$658,000.00	Oct 27, 2016 12:00:00 AM
DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF OFFICE	MINE RESISTANT VEHICLE	1	Each	\$767,360.00	Aug 21, 2019 12:00:00 AM
DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF OFFICE	MINE RESISTANT VEHICLE	1	Each	\$689,000.00	Mar 28, 2014 12:00:00 AM
GRANTS PASS DEPT OF PUBLIC SAFETY	MINE RESISTANT VEHICLE	1	Each	\$733,000.00	Apr 14, 2014 12:00:00 AM
GRANTS PASS DEPT OF PUBLIC SAFETY	MINE RESISTANT VEHICLE	1	Each	\$495,000.00	Mar 13, 2018 12:00:00 AM
INDEPENDENCE POLICE DEPT	MINE RESISTANT VEHICLE	1	Each	\$575,000.00	Aug 7, 2019 12:00:00 AM
JACKSON COUNTY SHERIFFS OFFICE	MINE RESISTANT VEHICLE	1	Each	\$689,000.00	Apr 11, 2016 12:00:00 AM
KLAMATH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	MINE RESISTANT VEHICLE	1	Each	\$733,000.00	May 19, 2014 12:00:00 AM
LANE CTY SHERIFF DEPT	MINE RESISTANT VEHICLE	1	Each	\$495,000.00	Mar 13, 2018 12:00:00 AM
LANE CTY SHERIFF DEPT	MINE RESISTANT VEHICLE	1	Each	\$658,000.00	Oct 18, 2016 12:00:00 AM
LINCOLN COUNTY SHERIFF OFFICE	MINE RESISTANT VEHICLE	1	Each	\$689,000.00	Dec 11, 2019 12:00:00 AM
MALHEUR CTY SHERIFF DEPT	MINE RESISTANT VEHICLE	1	Each	\$689,000.00	Dec 10, 2019 12:00:00 AM
MARION CTY SHERIFF DEPT	MINE RESISTANT VEHICLE	1	Each	\$610,764.00	Apr 1, 2016 12:00:00 AM
POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	MINE RESISTANT VEHICLE	1	Each	\$658,000.00	Sep 10, 2013 12:00:00 AM
THE DALLES POLICE DEPT	MINE RESISTANT VEHICLE	1	Each	\$689,000.00	Dec 3, 2019 12:00:00 AM

BAKER CTY SHERIFF DEPT	UNMANNED VEHICLE,GROUND	1	Each	\$10,000.00	Apr 11, 2012 12:00:00 AM
DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF OFFICE	UNMANNED VEHICLE,GROUND	1	Each	\$187,312.00	May 9, 2017 12:00:00 AM
DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF OFFICE	UNMANNED VEHICLE,GROUND	1	Each	\$187,312.00	May 9, 2017 12:00:00 AM
DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF OFFICE	UNMANNED VEHICLE,GROUND	1	Each	\$12,704.58	Jul 13, 2017 12:00:00 AM
DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF OFFICE	UNMANNED VEHICLE,GROUND	1	Each	\$12,704.58	Jul 13, 2017 12:00:00 AM

INDEPENDENCE POLICE DEPT	UNMANNED VEHICLE,GROUND	1	Each	\$10,000.00	Apr 16, 2014 12:00:00 AM
INDEPENDENCE POLICE DEPT	UNMANNED VEHICLE,GROUND	1	Each	\$10,000.00	Apr 16, 2014 12:00:00 AM
LANE CTY SHERIFF DEPT	UNMANNED VEHICLE,GROUND	1	Each	\$12,704.58	Jun 27, 2017 12:00:00 AM
LANE CTY SHERIFF DEPT	UNMANNED VEHICLE,GROUND	1	Each	\$53,375.00	May 29, 2018 12:00:00 AM
LANE CTY SHERIFF DEPT	UNMANNED VEHICLE,GROUND	1	Each	\$187,312.00	May 9, 2017 12:00:00 AM
LANE CTY SHERIFF DEPT	UNMANNED VEHICLE,GROUND	1	Each	\$187,312.00	May 9, 2017 12:00:00 AM
LANE CTY SHERIFF DEPT	UNMANNED VEHICLE,GROUND	1	Each	\$12,704.58	Jun 27, 2017 12:00:00 AM
LANE CTY SHERIFF DEPT	UNMANNED VEHICLE,GROUND	1	Each	\$12,704.58	Jun 27, 2017 12:00:00 AM
LANE CTY SHERIFF DEPT	UNMANNED VEHICLE,GROUND	1	Each	\$53,375.00	May 29, 2018 12:00:00 AM
LANE CTY SHERIFF DEPT	UNMANNED VEHICLE,GROUND	1	Each	\$53,375.00	May 29, 2018 12:00:00 AM
LANE CTY SHERIFF DEPT	UNMANNED VEHICLE,GROUND	1	Each	\$12,704.58	Jun 27, 2017 12:00:00 AM
SPRINGFIELD POLICE DEPT	UNMANNED VEHICLE,GROUND	1	Each	\$10,000.00	Oct 25, 2018 12:00:00 AM

*Data sets for each state are available online.<sup>1</sup>*

It is time we follow the lead of other states such as Montana and New Jersey to seek alternative methods of policing and remove incentives for surplus militarized equipment to pass along to our local police forces.

I urge you to support the passage of HB 2481 and I thank you for the opportunity to join you today.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.dla.mil/DispositionServices/Offers/Reutilization/LawEnforcement/PublicInformation/>.