



CITY OF

PORTLAND, OREGON

Ted Wheeler, Mayor
Carmen Rubio, Commissioner
Dan Ryan, Commissioner
Jo Ann Hardesty, Commissioner
Mingus Mapps, Commissioner

May 4, 2021

Representative Janelle Bynum, Chair
House Judiciary Committee
900 Court Street NE, HR F
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Bynum and Members of the Committee,

The City of Portland strongly supports SB 204-A which narrowly expands the definition of “criminal justice agency” in ORS 181A.010 for the purpose of accessing criminal justice information from Oregon’s Law Enforcement Data System (LEDS). Independent access to LEDS is essential for investigating allegations of officer misconduct and reviewing police policies and practices in a timely manner.

Currently, civilian oversight agencies are not included in the list of authorized agencies in statute for the purpose of accessing the LEDS system. SB 204-A will add a specific definition of civilian oversight agencies to the statute for the purpose of investigating allegations of officer misconduct and reviewing police policies and practices. This is a necessary step to improve the timeliness and efficiency of investigations through an independent process that is fair to officers and complainants.

The current process of requesting these records through the Portland Police Bureau is inefficient and not a good use of limited resources. Direct, independent access to LEDS for the City of Portland’s Independent Police Review (IPR) and its successor will result in more efficient investigations and improved public confidence in the oversight process.

The City of Portland strongly urges your support for SB 204-A.

Sincerely,

Ted Wheeler
Mayor

Carmen Rubio
Commissioner

Dan Ryan
Commissioner

Jo Ann Hardesty
Commissioner

Mingus Mapps
Commissioner