

OREGON ASSOCIATION CHIEFS OF POLICE EXCELLENCE IN POLICING PO Box 21719 Keizer OR 97307



PO Box 7468 Salem OR 97303

## To: Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Measure 110 Implementation

From: Retired Woodburn Police Chief Jim Ferraris, OACP President On behalf of the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police & the Oregon State Sheriffs' Association

**Date:** May 12, 2021

## Re: Testimony in support of HB 3355-A: Police Uniform and Identification Requirements

## Chair Prozanski and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony today in support of HB 3055-A, a measure that addresses standards for uniforms for officers assigned to crowd management responsibilities.

OSSA and OACP fully support the intent of this measure which ensures that law enforcement officers and agencies are clearly identifiable when working crowd management. HB 3055-A includes the following key provisions:

- Defines "crowd management" as a public security practice in which large crowds of 50 persons or more are managed to prevent the outbreak of crowd crushes, affrays, fights or riots.
- Specifies what identification must be on a law enforcement officer's uniform and gear during crowd management situations in cities with populations over 150,000.
- Directs law enforcement agency to adopt policy prohibiting the intentional obscuring of the required identification.
- Requires a law enforcement officer who is on duty and assigned to work crowd management in a city over 150,000 population to have:
- The officer's first initial and last name, or a unique identifier assigned by the officer's law enforcement agency, affixed to the front and back of the officer's uniform;
- If wearing a tactical helmet and assigned a unique identifier by the officer's law enforcement agency, the unique identifier affixed to the back of the officer's helmet;

- The name of the jurisdiction of the officer's law enforcement agency and the word "POLICE," "SHERIFF" or "TROOPER" on the front and back of the officer's uniform; and a patch signifying the officer's law enforcement agency affixed to one shoulder.
- Requires a law enforcement officer to provide their name and identifying number, or a business card, to a member of the public upon request if practical, safe, and tactically feasible.
- Provides process by which a member of the public can request and obtain the name and state assigned identifying number of an officer from a law enforcement agency and allows exception if officer is participating in an undercover operation.
- Exempts the Oregon State Police
- Uniform requirements are operative 90 days after the effective date of the act. Provisions requiring officers to provide name & identifying number take place upon passage.

We were approached about an amendment to this measure that would reduce the population for cities that fall under the uniform requirements from 150,000 down to 60,000. We also understand that the intent is to include the Oregon State Police and remove their exemption from the measure. We can support these changes to the measure. In closing, OSSA and OACP strongly support this measure. Thank you for allowing us an opportunity to provide this testimony and I'm happy to answer any questions you have.