



February 1, 2020

Chair Bynum, Vice-Chair Noble, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) of OR, we respectfully request your support for House Bill 2929.

Most of our police officers undertake their responsibilities with the goal of serving and protecting our communities. They do so with the knowledge that they risk their personal safety.

Unfortunately, whether because of work pressures or other factors, these altruistic goals are not always put into action. There are "good" and "bad" cops, and it is important to applaud the good and take action against the bad.

Requiring police officers to report police misconduct legitimizes those police officers who want to ensure that the police department they wanted to join is in fact living up to its promise -- and that the police officer who calls attention to misconduct won't be the one who is losing rank or reputation instead of the officer who committed the misconduct.

Importantly, House Bill 2929 sets up reasonable time frames to report, investigate and resolve the appropriateness of discipline regarding these incidents of misconduct.

It also expands the persons to whom the misconduct can be reported from just a supervisor, to those in the chain of command and/or to someone who the reporting officer believes has the authority to conduct an investigation and impose discipline. This too encourages officers' making reports of misconduct.

Respectfully submitted,

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