



OREGON ASSOCIATION CHIEFS OF POLICE
EXCELLENCE IN POLICING

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OREGON STATE SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION
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To: **Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary**

From: **Kevin Campbell, Executive Director**
Oregon Association of Chiefs of Police

Jason Myers, Executive Director
Oregon State Sheriffs' Association

Date: February 2nd, 2022

Re: **Testimony SB 1512-Collateral Consequences-Area of concern**

Chair Prozanski and members of the committee,

On behalf of the Oregon State Sheriff's Association (OSSA) and the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police (OACP), thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony regarding SB 1512.

We would like to begin by thanking Senator Dembrow, the chief sponsor of SB 1512 for working with us to consider our concerns and we understand that amendments are being drafted to address them.

Oregon is a recognized leader of thoughtful police reform starting with the Special Sessions of 2020 and continuing during the 2021 full session. All told, 23 separate pieces of legislation have been passed and enacted into law to ensure Oregon Law Enforcement has policy, procedure and hiring standards consistent with the expectations of Oregon diverse communities.

SB 1512, as currently written, prohibits DPSST and Local Law Enforcement agencies from accessing Juvenile adjudication records. Additionally, it prohibits agencies from disqualifying a Public Safety applicant who (based on the Juvenile adjudication records) doesn't meet the moral standards for a public safety professional. We believe this information and ability to take appropriate action is crucial for a public safety agency conducting backgrounds on prospective candidates and for licensure decisions. It is clear from the many pieces of Police reform passed that legislative and community expectations has set the bar for public safety professionals high for moral conduct. Without these important background/licensure components in place, there will be a likelihood that individuals who have been adjudicated for serious juvenile crimes could become a law enforcement professional.

Because of these concerns, we are working with Senator Dembrow to exempt public safety agencies and DPSST from this measure.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony!