



MEDFORD
CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

February 7, 2023

Representative Julie Fahey, Chair
House Committee on Rules

Re: Letter of support for HB 3111

Dear Chair Fahey and the House Committee on Rules:

The City of Medford supports HB 3111. The addition of protection to non-PERS retirement plans does not directly impact the City, but the removal of "personnel" from ORS 192.355(3) is of importance to the City of Medford and likely all public entities in Oregon. Currently, a public employee's cell phone number or home address is protected from a public records request if it is in a "personnel file," but not in other City documents. If a public employee places their cell phone number on an intradepartmental emergency contact list, or shares their home address as part of an employee ride-share-to-work program, that they are waiving all privacy rights in their cell phone number or home address. Under current law, any person (whether it be an estranged ex-spouse, or angry protester who wants to target a particular public employee with harassment) can obtain employee cell phones and home addresses by sending public records requests for those sorts of documents. This personal information should be protected whether the document containing the information is in a "personnel file" or some other file.

For these reasons, the City of Medford supports HB 3111 and appreciates the Committee's work on this important issue.

Sincerely,

/s/ Eric B. Mitton

Eric B. Mitton
City Attorney