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To: Chair Dacia Grayber  
Vice-Chair Thuy Tran  
Vice-Chair Rick Lewis  
Members of the House Committee on Emergency Management, General Government, &  
Veterans

From: Charles Maughan, Mayor of Corvallis

Date: February 10, 2023

Subject: Corvallis Supports House Bill 2806

The City Council of Corvallis unanimously supports the contents of House Bill 2806 and urges passage of the bill into law.

This idea is, at least in part, a collaboration between Rep. Nathan Sosa and Corvallis City Councilor Gabe Shepherd and addresses a growing concern among public officials and staff: safety. The bill would allow for public bodies to conduct executive sessions to discuss the physical safety of elected officials and public facilities, and to discuss digital safety in the form of cybersecurity concerns.

Having frank conversations in executive session would allow elected officials to express safety concerns and review safety plans without requiring those plans or vulnerabilities be publicly available to those who would wish the officials or staff members harm. Executive sessions on cybersecurity could help a public body better understand the shortfalls of its digital security without showing bad actors where to look.

At the Council's December 19, 2022, City Council meeting, the Corvallis City Council unanimously supported the legislative concept. The Corvallis City Legislative Committee will be following this bill as it, hopefully, becomes a law and will be advocating for it along the way.

Once again, we urge the State Legislature to make this bill become law.

Sincerely,

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Charles Maughan  
Mayor of Corvallis