



# American Association of University Professors

*Academic Freedom for a Free Society*

February 5, 2025

House Committee on Higher Education and Workforce Development

Re: House Bill HB 2551 – Support

Chair Hudson, Vice-Chairs Fragala and Harbick, and members of the committee:

On behalf of the more than 6,300 members of the American Association of University Professors in Oregon, our collective bargaining chapters at the University of Oregon, Portland State University, Oregon State University, and Oregon Institute of Technology, and our faculty members in advocacy chapters across Oregon, we urge you to support HB 2551.

This bill will increase the safety of students, staff, and faculty working at Oregon's public universities by ensuring that prospective security officers are not on the job market because of past misdeeds that have forced them out of their previous position. According to [The Yale Law Journal](#), officers fired for misconduct who are rehired by a different department "are far more likely—than both rookies and veterans who have never been fired—to be fired from their next job. They are also more likely to receive complaints at the state licensing board for 'moral character violations,' including complaints for violent or sexual misconduct and for integrity-related misdeeds." (p. 12)

Because of the potential threat that these so-called "[wandering officers](#)" pose to the university community, this common-sense piece of legislation will give the peace of mind that Oregon's university students, staff, faculty, and their families deserve to have should they ever be in an emergency situation that requires the presence of campus security. For this reason, we urge you to pass HB 2551.

Thank you for your consideration.

Victor Reyes  
Executive Director, AAUP Oregon