

Date:	February 12, 2025
To:	Chair Kropf, Vice Chairs Chotzen and Wallan, Members of the House Judiciary Committee
From:	Association of Oregon Counties Legislative Affairs Manager Tim Dooley
Subject:	Support HB 2465

Chair Kropf, Vice Chairs Chotzen and Wallan, Members of the House Judiciary Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of HB 2464. For the record, I am Tim Dooley, testifying on behalf of the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC).

Currently, escaping from a Parole and Probation Officer does not constitute the crime of escape, due to the fact that parole and probation officers are not statutorily defined “peace officers” such as a police officer or sheriff’s deputy. A parole and probation officer is able to arrest a person under supervision who has violated the terms of their supervision, but individuals who escape from that custody cannot be charged with a crime for their conduct.

This bill also allows parole and probation officers access to drivers license photos via DMV, which is something that is also currently restricted to peace officers.

The majority of Oregon counties employ parole and probation officers through county community corrections departments rather than their Sheriff’s Offices, including Deschutes, Klamath, Lane, Multnomah, Washington and Yamhill, among others.

AOC supports this statutory change to give parole and probation officers equal footing with their police officer and sheriff’s deputy counterparts to enable them to do their jobs in a safe and effective manner.

Thank you for your time.

Tim Dooley

Legislative Affairs Manager for Public Safety