To: Senate Committee on Judiciary

From: Sheriff Dave Daniel, Josephine County Sheriff's Office

Oregon State Sheriffs' Association

Kevin Campbell, Executive Director Oregon Association Chiefs of Police

Date: February 17, 2025

Re: SB 162 – Testimony in Support

Authorizing the destruction of hoop houses for Officer/Public Safety

## Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher and members of the committee,

For the record, I am Dave Daniel. I am the Josephine County Sheriff, and I am here today on behalf of the Oregon State Sheriffs' Association (OSSA) and the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police (OACP) to urge your support for SB 162, which would allow law enforcement to destroy hoop houses when there is evidence of their use in criminal activity while executing a search warrant. This bill is essential for the safety of our law enforcement officers and public servants.

Illegal marijuana grows have been a persistent issue across the state, creating hazardous conditions for officers tasked with enforcing the law. Currently, officers must manually remove illegal plants from hoop houses, exposing them to toxic pesticides, harmful chemicals, and extreme environmental conditions. These exposures have led to serious health risks, including rashes, respiratory issues, heat stroke, and dehydration. Because heavy machinery cannot be used without damaging hoop houses, officers are forced into direct contact with these dangerous elements.

By allowing the destruction of hoop houses in these situations, SB 162 provides a critical safeguard for the health and safety of those protecting our communities. Limiting exposure to unregulated chemicals and unsafe conditions ensures officers can perform their duties without unnecessary risk.

We respectfully ask for your support of SB 162 to better protect those who enforce our laws and uphold public safety.

OSSA & OACP – PO Box 7468, Salem, OR