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TO: Joint Subcommittee on Public Safety RE: POP 104

I am a bilingual defense investigator, and I support POP 104 and the increase in defense investigator pay. I respectfully request you consider making the effective date July 2025 for the \$75.00 / hr pay increase.

I have been a small business owner in Oregon as a defense investigator since the beginning of Oregon Public Defense Services, which is now Oregon Public Defense Commission. I appreciate very much that you are acknowledging our need for this increase in pay for defense investigators considering the costs in running our small businesses and increase in cost of living in general.

It would truly benefit defense investigators for you to implement the \$75.00 / hr pay effective July 2025, and for Oregon Public Defense Commission to be competitive with Federal rate of pay, and with other States' defense investigator's rate of pay.

Best regards,


Michael J. Padilla
Bilingual Defense Investigator