MURREY INVESTIGATIONS LLC

Lynn Murrey, Defense Investigator

Phone: (503) 509-4725

Oregon DPSST License: PI-ID 55051

Email: pimurrey@pm.me

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TO: Joint Subcommittee on Public Safety RE: POP 104

I support POP 104 and the increase in investigator hourly rate and respectfully ask for one adjustment: for the hourly rate increase to \$75.00 /hr be implemented to take effect July 2025.

Delaying the rate increase until 2026 may further affect progress toward resolving the public defense crisis and potentially losing more public defense investigators to the private sector or other States that pay a more equitable wage for public defense investigators. An increase in July 2025 may help with recruiting and retaining qualified defense investigators to help alleviate the crisis Oregon faces currently for public defense investigators.

Please do not delay implementing this increase in making the hourly rate the same across the board for all public defense investigators by implementing the \$75.00 / hour rate in July 2025.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

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Lynn Murrey Defense Investigator Dallas, OR 97338