

Submitter: Mayor Lacey Beaty

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee  
On Public Safety

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5533

Testimony of Mayor Lacey Beaty

In Support of the Oregon Military Department Budget & Reenlistment Bonus

Chair Senator Broderson, Co-Chair Representative Evans, and members of the committee,

For the record, my name is Lacey Beaty, and I'm the lucky mayor of Beaverton. Like many of you, I wear a lot of hats—local elected official, mom, Army combat veteran, and spouse of an active-duty service member.

As a mayor, I see firsthand how essential the Oregon National Guard is to our communities. Every time the state asks, the Guard answers—no matter the mission. They've delivered COVID vaccines, responded to devastating wildfires, and even rescued hikers from Mt. Hood. They serve abroad—but they also serve right here, shoulder to shoulder with us.

Some of them even work at my City Hall.

That's why I'm here today to voice my strong support for the Oregon Military Department's 2025–27 budget—especially the \$5 million investment in reenlistment bonuses. This is a smart, targeted step that helps Oregon keep the experienced Guard members who are already serving our communities.

The return on investment is huge. This biennium, the Oregon National Guard will bring in \$1.3 billion in federal funds to our state. That's an extraordinary impact, especially considering the department's \$52 million general fund request.

As someone who's spent two decades connected to military service, I know it's not just service members who serve—it's families too. And when we support Guard members through smart retention policies, we're not just keeping talent—we're keeping families rooted in Oregon.

This budget helps Oregon say: We see you. We value your service. And we want you to stay.

Please support the full budget—and make the reenlistment bonus a top priority.

Thank you.