



**TO: Rep. Jason Kropf, Chair  
Rep. Willy Chotzen, Vice Chair  
Rep. Kim Wallan, Vice Chair  
Members of House Judiciary Committee**

**FR: Oregon District Attorneys Association**

**RE: HB 3553 & HB 2175 - Support**

April 7, 2025

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support HB 3553 and HB 2175. As prosecutors dedicated to protecting the public, we strongly support both bills and urge this committee to do the same.

Pill presses are used to manufacture counterfeit prescription drugs, or to make illicit drugs more discrete and usable. In light of the ongoing fentanyl crisis, this poses a significant and growing threat to public health and safety. The illicit production of these drugs into pill form has been linked to a surge in overdose deaths. By criminalizing the possession of pill presses, we can take an essential step in disrupting this dangerous trade and safeguarding our communities from the devastating consequences of these illegal substances.

These devices, which were originally intended for legitimate pharmaceutical manufacturing, are now widely used by criminal organizations to mass-produce fake medications, or make illicit drugs appear to be a legitimate pharmaceutical. These counterfeit drugs often contain lethal doses of substances like fentanyl, which is far more potent than most prescription opioids. By banning the possession of pill presses, we can target the source and manufacturing of these dangerous counterfeit drugs, thereby preventing their distribution on the streets and protecting vulnerable individuals from unknowingly ingesting life-threatening substances.

Furthermore, this bill would serve as a strong deterrent to those seeking to manufacture illegal pills for profit. We know from our law enforcement partners that the occurrence of these devices is increasing steadily. By imposing criminal penalties for possession, we send a clear message that these actions will not be tolerated. This bill strengthens law enforcement's ability to investigate and dismantle illicit drug manufacturing operations, making it harder for criminal enterprises to evade justice and continue their harmful activities.

Finally, the public health impact of this bill cannot be overstated. Counterfeit pills are often indistinguishable from legitimate medications, making it difficult for users to recognize the risks they are taking. This bill represents a proactive approach to reducing overdose deaths and ensuring that individuals seeking medical help can do so without the fear of encountering counterfeit drugs. By supporting this legislation, we are prioritizing the safety of our communities and taking a significant step toward combating the opioid crisis and the growing threat of counterfeit drug production. We strongly urge your support of this bill.