

OREGON ASSOCIATION CHIEFS OF POLICE EXCELLENCE IN POLICING PO Box 21719 Keizer OR 97307



OREGON STATE SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION JOINSERVE.PROTECT. PO Box 7468 Salem OR 97303

To: House Judiciary Committee

From: Tim Svenson, Executive Director Oregon State Sheriffs' Association

Kevin Campbell, Executive Director Oregon Association Chiefs of Police

Date: March 8, 2025

Re: HB 3935 - Testimony in Support Penalties for Swatting

Chair Kropf and members of the committee,

On behalf of the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police and the Oregon State Sheriffs' Association, we submit this testimony in support of HB 3935 which seeks to establish meaningful penalties for individuals who engage in the dangerous act of swatting knowingly making false emergency reports that result in an emergency response.

Swatting is not a harmless prank. It is a reckless and malicious act that places individuals and first responders in significant danger, diverts critical emergency resources, and in the most tragic cases, leads to serious injury or loss of life. This legislation appropriately recognizes the gravity of such offenses and ensures that those responsible are held accountable for their actions.

This bill provides an deterrent by ensuring that perpetrators face serious legal and financial consequences. Swatting not only endangers lives but also erodes public trust in emergency services and wastes valuable law enforcement resources. As leaders in Oregon's law enforcement community, we recognize the importance of this legislation in safeguarding both our citizens and our first responders from the dangers posed by these false reports.

We urge the committee to support ongoing efforts to refine the language of HB 3935 and to send a clear message that Oregon will not tolerate swatting. Thank you for your time and consideration. We stand ready to assist in any way as discussions regarding this bill continue.