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On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB238

Chair Kropf, Vice-Chairs Andersen and Wallan, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jackson Stramler, and I live in Eugene, Oregon. I'm writing to strongly support Senate Bill 238.

I've seen how drones can help find missing people, safely check dangerous situations, support other public safety organizations such as fire departments, and keep our communities safer. But current state laws on unmanned aircraft systems often make it hard to use drones quickly or effectively in these cases.

I have direct personal experience with this as a police officer. There have been several instances where officers operating drones have personally been able to protect me and my partners by calling for support when struggling to take suspects into custody. I have also seen drones locate lost and missing suspects as well as immediately support officers responding to emergency calls for service.

SB 238 proposes practical updates to these outdated rules, while still ensuring proper oversight and transparency. These changes will make our communities safer and help save lives across Oregon.

I respectfully ask the committee to support this bill and allow Oregonians to benefit from responsible, life-saving drone technology.