

Submitter: Joel Hendrickson
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB238
To Whom it May Concern;

Today, the Oregon House Judiciary is hearing SB 238A, a bill to allow police and sheriffs to use drones for surveillance and spying in many situations – without warrants, which means without court oversight.

What types of situations could this involve? Drones could be used to surveil protests, abortion clinics, residential neighborhoods, churches, farms, ranches, parks, and much more.

How ridiculous is this unnecessary and dangerous expansion of law enforcement authority – and weakening of court oversight and the rule of law – when the U.S. is on the verge of an authoritarian federal government. Do Oregon state lawmakers not see that Trump and his cronies, including Vance and Stephen Miller, are salivating to use local police and police to further their hate agenda against immigrants and refugees, trans people, and anyone they consider an undesirable or political enemy?

Please do not let this egregious and potentially dangerous oversight to occur. Thank you for your consideration and good work.

Joel Hendrickson