

Submitter: Shannon Lieberman
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB238

I am a resident of Portland, Oregon, and I am writing today to oppose SB238. SB238 expands law enforcement's ability to use drones and other surveillance methods and directly compromises the right to privacy of all Oregonians. It also has a clear potential for abuse of civil rights, as it permits law enforcement to use drones without a warrant if they have "probable cause to believe that a person has committed a crime, is committing a crime or is about to commit a crime." Allowing law enforcement to circumvent due process and use drone surveillance without a warrant because they believe someone is "about to commit a crime" is so clearly problematic; how, exactly, would it be determined that someone is "about to commit a crime?" We are currently watching ICE raids and illegal kidnapping and deportation all across this country. The only way to suggest someone is "about to commit a crime" is via profiling, a deeply flawed, racist ideology that has no real bearing on actual criminal activity or intent. This legislation would set a dangerous precedent that moves Oregon closer to a surveillance state, impinging on the freedoms that all of us are entitled to. I urge you to reject SB238.