

Submitter:

Sarah McBride

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB238

Oregon should be leading the way in protecting our civil liberties, not creating new laws that expand unchecked police surveillance of everyday people. SB 238A would greatly expand the use of drones by law enforcement in Oregon. This bill removes critical court oversight of police and sheriffs in Oregon when they are using powerful and invasive technology. In our democracy, the courts are supposed to be a check on unfettered authority and potential abuses of power by law enforcement. That is why Oregonians, such as myself, support the Fourth Amendment and the Oregon Constitution, which require police and sheriffs to go to court to get a warrant. When we live in a society where getting an early term abortion for life-threatening health reasons or in instances of rape is a crime in 13 states and when looking like an 'illegal immigrant' is a crime to be condemned of without due process throughout the country, even sanctuary states, we can't trust what probable cause for spying would be. Drones will be abused if restrictions are loosened.