



Representative Hòa Nguyễn  
Oregon House District 48

**SB 238 - RELAXING WARRANT REQUIREMENTS FOR UNMANNED AIRCRAFT**

**6/11 - House Committee on Rules**

Thank you, Chair Bowman, Vice Chairs Drazan and Pham, and members of the committee. I am State Representative Hòa Nguyễn, and I represent House District 48, which includes outer Southeast Portland and North Clackamas County.

I am writing today in opposition to SB 238. As written, I am concerned about the potential for abuse of this new technology without strong guardrails, to the detriment of the privacy rights of Oregonians, especially our marginalized and BIPOC communities.

This bill expands police authority to use drones, and increases the number of scenarios where police would be allowed to deploy drones without a warrant. While I am appreciative of specific safeguards added in the -11 amendment, I do not believe they are sufficient, and there are no accountability measures included in the instance that these powers are misused.

As a Vietnamese legislator, I also have significant reservations about how these broad new powers would impact communities of color and marginalized communities. It is well-documented that BIPOC individuals are incarcerated at higher rates, and that communities of color have more negative interactions with law enforcement. If we give the authority to police departments to use drones without a warrant, and in response to any call for service, BIPOC communities will be those most impacted.

I understand that technological advances present both new opportunities and new challenges. I believe there are potentially beneficial uses of drones to improve public safety. However, when we craft laws relating to these new and developing challenges, we must ensure that our most

vulnerable communities are at the table and have an active role in the decision-making process.

I urge the committee to table this bill for this session, and continue this discussion in the interim, this time, engaging BIPOC community members and organizations so that we can avoid any potential disproportionate impacts and misuse of authority.

In community,

Rep. Hòa Nguyễn