OREGON Working Families Party

Testimony in Opposition to SB 238A

To: House Committee on Rules FROM: Annie Naranjo-Rivera, Oregon Working Families Party

June 12, 2025

Chair Bowman, Vice-Chairs Drazen and Pham, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Annie Naranjo-Rivera, and I serve as the State Director of the Oregon Working Families Party. We are a grassroots political organization made up of community based organizations and unions who are committed to building a society that works for all of us, not just the wealthy and well-connected. We advocate for economic justice, racial equity, and a democracy that centers working people and their communities.

That is why I write to urge a no vote in opposition to SB 238A.

Working families in Oregon value privacy, free speech, and the right to organize without fear of government intrusion and spying. **SB 238A** would undermine these fundamental rights by drastically expanding the ability of police and sheriffs to surveil our communities with drones without court oversight.

We've seen this story before. Unchecked surveillance powers are used to intimidate and silence dissent — especially in Black, brown, immigrant, and working-class communities. At a time when Trump and his allies are openly calling for a return to authoritarian rule, this bill opens the door to even more state violence and repression. Oregon should be a leader in protecting our rights — not giving up our freedoms to a surveillance state. Maintaining our rights to privacy and due process should be of paramount importance especially today with the actions of the federal government determined to redefine due process and privacy as luxuries. We depend on our state lawmakers to fight to protect our democracy and do everything they can to protect our rights in Oregon. SB 238A would take our state in an increasingly dangerous direction.

OREGON Working Families Party

At the Working Families Party, we stand with everyday Oregonians who believe in community safety.

We urge your NO vote. Please oppose **SB 238A**.

Sincerely,

Annie Naranjo-Rivera State Director Oregon Working Families Party