

Submitter: Olivia Cutler
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SJR203

Chair Prozanski, Vice Chair Thatcher and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary,

My name is Olivia Cutler and I live in Portland, where I was born and raised. I am writing to testify in support of Senate Joint Resolution 203. If passed it would propose a constitutional amendment to voters on whether there should be a constitutional amendment banning the use of masks by law enforcement officers and requiring them to wear uniforms with badge numbers and I strongly support this constitutional amendment. The practice of masking by law enforcement is not only dangerous to public safety but it erodes the trust of the citizens they are supposed to be protecting.

Transparency in policing is vital to keeping our communities safe. Ensuring that faces and badge numbers of officers are visible will help protect citizens and non-citizens from impersonators and reduce some of the terror felt by our communities. I do not feel safe as a woman and do not trust that the law enforcement officers have good intentions if I cannot see their faces and their badge numbers.

Please pass SJR 203 out of committee and allow the residents of Oregon to determine how we want to interact with law enforcement.

Thank you,
Olivia Cutler