

Submitter: Marcus Blankenship
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SJR203
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Measure: Support SJR 203

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

My name is Marcus Blankenship, and I live in Klamath Falls, Oregon. I am writing to testify in strong support of Senate Joint Resolution 203, which if passed 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. 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.

Rural Oregon has been built on migrant workers, and depends on a wide variety of non-white people to grow, pick, wash, and process crops like potatoes which are shipped nationwide. In addition, as a Director of Engineering at Salesforce.com, I see first hand that the entire tech sector has been built on the backs of immigrants who came to this country and built billion dollar businesses.

We must have more transparency and accountability among ICE and law enforcement to ensure they are acting in the best interests of all members of society, and in accordance with the law.

Thank you,
Marcus Blankenship