

Submitter: Katherine Sinkins

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SJR203

My name is Kate Sinkins and I am an immigration attorney practicing on the coast in Lincoln City. The practice of masking by law enforcement is dangerous to public safety, both for undocumented persons and U.S. Citizens. A mask covering one's face erodes the trust of the citizens they are supposed to be protecting. The lack of identification of which agency a person is from is also troubling. Without a photo of a person's face and identification of their agency, it is unclear whether a person has been kidnapped for ransom by thugs or picked up by "law enforcement". The quotations are there because our local law enforcement do NOT wear masks, have their name and badge number in plain sight and work hard to gain and keep the trust of the folks they are tasked with protecting on the Oregon coast.

I strongly support a constitutional amendment that would ban the use of masks by law enforcement officers and would require law enforcement officers to wear uniforms with badge numbers (Senate Joint Resolution 203).

I believe law enforcement officers operating in Oregon should have to verify their identity and should not be permitted to mask themselves from the public

Kate Sinkins, Esq.