

Submitter: Corey Adkins

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4106

My name is Corey Adkins, and I oppose HB 4016. In a time where Oregonians are asking for more law enforcement accountability, this bill is a tone-deaf blanket protection of law enforcement from accountability that will remove protections from some of our most vulnerable Oregonians undergoing mental health crises. Living near 82nd Avenue in Portland, I see people in mental health crisis nearly every day, it is an urgent issue that needs to be treated with nuance and compassion. Rarely are these people a threat to the community. They are neighbors who are struggling. Law enforcement are currently being put in the unenviable role of having to handle these situations when that is not what they are trained for, not what their role is intended for, and not what they are asking for. We need to continue to find and empower alternative solutions, like Portland Street Response and Cahoots, to help address mental health issues in our community, rather than ask law enforcement to handle an issue that should not be in their purview and grant them wider immunity to do so without accountability. Passing this bill will result in injuries and deaths of vulnerable Oregonians. I urge you to vote No on HB 4016.