

Submitter: Vincent Rose
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1516

I am a resident of Eugene and a regular voter. I am writing to share my concerns about SB 1516. I work in tech and currently serve as a Desktop Support Services Manager. I have spent years dealing with bad laws and poor policies because leaders did not listen to the people who actually do the work. I am getting up to speed on this bill, and I have noticed some major gaps that need to be fixed.

You must pass the -15 amendment to SB 1516. This amendment defines "end-to-end encryption." Without this definition, the bill does not truly protect our data.

Why the -15 Amendment Matters

The current version of the bill requires "end-to-end encryption" but does not define it. In the tech world, this is a dangerous loophole. Without a legal definition, private vendors like Flock Safety can claim they use encryption while still holding the keys to the data.

The -15 amendment fixes this by stating:

"'End-to-end encryption' means a method of data encryption that ensures only the law enforcement agency that owns the captured license plate data possesses the capability to decrypt, access or grant access to the captured license plate data."

Technical Concerns

As an IT professional, I'd value your expertise in seeing why vague language fails. Here is why a clear definition is needed:

Key Ownership: If a vendor holds the encryption keys, they can access, share, or sell our location data. True end-to-end encryption means the vendor cannot see the data at all.

Preventing Misuse: Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs) track everyone, not just criminals. This creates a map of where we live, work, and pray. We must ensure this data is used only for legitimate purposes.

Enforcement: Without a definition, "end-to-end encryption" becomes a marketing term rather than a security standard. It makes the law impossible to enforce.

I have seen how projects fail when the technical details are ignored. We cannot afford to get this wrong. Our privacy is at stake. If the -15 amendment is not part of this bill, you need to not pass SB 1516.