

PRESS RELEASE OREGON HOUSE DEMOCRATS

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Oregon House Passes Bill Strengthening Misconduct Reporting Requirements for Police

House Bill 2929 A requires police officers to report violations of conduct, calls for transparency and accountability

SALEM, OR— Today, the Oregon House advanced legislation to increase police officer accountability, strengthening requirements for reporting misconduct or violations of physical, emotional, intellectual, or moral fitness standards. House Bill 2929 A requires officers who witness misconduct or minimum standard violations to report the violation within 72 hours to a direct supervisor, a superior officer in the reporting officer's chain of command, or the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST).

According to data provided by the City of Portland, 66 complaints against Portland Police Bureau officers were initiated by the Bureau, compared to 331 initiated by community members.

"We need to continue to create a culture of accountability," said Representative Khanh Pham (D-Portland), one of the bill's sponsors. "Accountability and transparency are crucial for not only improving the quality of the work our police do, but for building public trust in law enforcement."

This legislation would also require DPSST to create and maintain a form which officers could use to submit reports. Upon receiving a report, the law enforcement unit would then have three months to conduct an investigation.

This legislation forms part of a series of bipartisan bills, sponsored and co-sponsored by Rep. Janelle Bynum (D-Clackamas), chair of the House Judiciary Committee and Equitable Policing and whose leadership has been central to the legislature's police reform efforts.

HB 2929 passed with unanimous support, and now moves to the Senate for consideration.