

# PRESS RELEASE

### OREGON HOUSE DEMOCRATS

For Immediate Release June 8, 2021 <u>For more information, Contact:</u> Tom Crawford: Tom.crawford@oregonlegislature.gov

### Oregon House Sends Police Reform Bills to Governor's Desk

HB 2936 and HB 3355, repassed by the House, form part of a 22-bill package aimed at tackling police reform and centering public safety

SALEM, OR—Yesterday, the House sent two police reform bills with bipartisan support, <u>HB</u> 2936 and <u>HB 3355</u> to the Governor's desk. House Bill 2936 affirms anti-racist values for law enforcement, adding social media policies and standardizing background checks. The bill also requires the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) to create a statewide uniform background check for law enforcement units to implement during hiring processes.

HB 3355 creates transparency by specifying what identification must be on a law enforcement officer's uniform and gear during crowd management situations, such as protests. The bill, which applies to cities with populations over 60,000, also prohibits officers from intentionally obscuring their name or identification number to a member of the public upon request.

The bills form part of the nine pieces of legislation, passed earlier this Session and part of a 22bill package, aimed at tackling police reform and holding law enforcement accountable.

This slate of legislation was championed by <u>Representative Janelle Bynum</u> (D- Clackamas) and the Oregon legislature's BIPOC Caucus. The legislation sets statewide expectations for behavior and character of police, offer training in life safety and community safety, and sets Oregon on a new path forward to greater transparency, department management and community inclusion on public safety efforts. The bills also bring together multiple stakeholders to acknowledge past harms, protect the rights of Oregonians to speak and assemble freely, and lay the foundation for local and county officials to move more nimbly in addressing internal reforms.

"This Session is about laying the groundwork to reimagine public safety," said Rep. Bynum. "Together with Rep. Ron Noble, we've brought together Republicans and Democrats in collaboration with community partners and stakeholders, to create a culture of accountability so that our police are accountable to themselves and understand that their power is derived from the communities they serve."

## As the end of Session nears, House Democrats will look to prioritize the following legislation around community safety and police accountability:

- <u>SB 621</u>: Passed by the House yesterday, this bill would give communities agency to establish community oversight boards, established to oversee disciplinary matters concerning law enforcement officers.
- <u>HB 2002</u>: Creates clearer identification standards for officers during a traffic stop, clarifies the use of citations for certain crimes, limits some traffic stops, and eliminates probation fees. Invests funds in community based restorative justice models to help adults in custody return to their communities and thrive.
- <u>HB 2417</u>: Provides funding for public safety efforts surrounding mental health and crisis intervention through programs for mobile crisis intervention teams and other behavioral health supports.
- <u>HB 2575</u>: Supports programs for trauma-informed training and development for law enforcement.
- <u>HB 2930</u>: Creates a Commission on Statewide Law Enforcement Standards of Conduct and Discipline, and removes the discipline matrix or discipline guide as a mandatory subject of collective bargaining for law enforcement, establishes the Commission on Statewide Law Enforcement Standards of Conduct and Discipline, and requires an arbitrator to apply a reasonable person standard.
- <u>HB 3145</u>: Promotes and establishes transparency of public safety disciplinary records where an economic sanction has been imposed.

## The police reform package passed this Session off the House floor includes nine bills thus far, including:

- <u>House Bill 3164</u>: Limits the circumstances under which a person could be charged with interfering with an officer. The bill aims to prevent unjustifiable arrests for all Oregonians, but especially BIPOC communities and people experiencing homelessness who are disproportionately impacted. The bill, brought to the floor at the request of the ACLU, will also protect reporters who are simply trying to do their job. (More details available <u>here</u>)
- <u>House Bill 2513</u>: Requires police officers to not only be certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), but also receive training on airway and circulatory anatomy and physiology as well, and to immediately contact emergency medical services if a restrained person is suffering a respiratory or cardiac compromise. (More details available <u>here</u>)
- <u>House Bill 2929</u>: Strengthens police misconduct reporting requirements for police by requiring 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). (More details available <u>here</u>)
- <u>House Bill 2936</u>: Affirms anti-racist values for law enforcement, adding social media policies and standardizing background checks. Requires DPSST to create a statewide uniform background check for law enforcement units to implement during hiring processes. (More details available <u>here</u>)

- <u>House Bill 2986</u>: Supports training police to investigate, identify and report crimes motivated by prejudice based on gender. Specifically, the bill requires the Board on Public Safety Standards and Training to ensure that police officers and certified reserve officers are trained to investigate, identify and report crimes motivated by the perceived gender of victim. (More details available <u>here</u>)
- <u>House Bill 3047</u>: Anti-doxing legislation that creates cause to sue for damages if a person's information is released without their consent, and results or could result in stalking, harassment, or injury. (More details available <u>here</u>)
- <u>House Bill 3273</u>: Protects Oregonians' privacy. Upon request, publish-for-pay sites would have 30-days to remove or destroy a booking photo, and could charge no more than \$50 for the service. Additionally, HB 3273 A limits the circumstances under which law enforcement agencies can release booking photos. The photo can still be released to other law enforcement entities and can be distributed for the purposes of locating a fugitive or suspect. (More details available here)
- <u>House Bill 3355</u>: Creates transparency by specifying what identification must be on a law enforcement officer's uniform and gear during crowd management situations, such as protests. The bill, which applies to cities with populations over 150,000, also prohibits officers from intentionally obscuring their name or identification number to a member of the public upon request. (More details available <u>here</u>)
- <u>House Bill 3059</u>: Keeps police from abusing powers by providing more clarity in how to manage "unlawful assemblies." Gives bureaus more flexibility to not arrest non-violent protestors when an "unlawful assembly" is declared. (More details available <u>here</u>)

###