



## **Carla C. Piluso**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Rep. Piluso Advocates to Secure Funding for the East Metro Gang Enforcement Team**

**SALEM – Rep. Carla Piluso (D-Gresham)** testified today before the Senate Committee on Human Services and urged the committee to pass [Senate Bill 140](#), which would secure funding for the East Metro Gang Enforcement Team (EMGET). The EMGET was established in 2005 and is a specialized team of officers in Fairview, Troutdale, and Gresham who investigate gang-related crimes in East County and educate families and at-risk youth to prevent further gang related crimes.

Rep. Piluso, who served in the Gresham Police Department for 30 years and eventually retired as Police Chief, spoke to her experience working with the program from the beginning.

“Police Chiefs are facing issues bigger than any one jurisdiction can address, and they need centralized help,” **Rep. Piluso** said. “This is an investment that returns exceptional results for the State of Oregon.”

Sen. Laurie Monnes Anderson (D-Gresham) and Rep. Chris Gorsek (D-Troutdale), who also represent East Multnomah County, offered testimony in support of EMGET.

“I believe that the East Metro Gang Enforcement Team is really an essential part of East County and is part of what we’ve been trying to create as part of a more holistic approach,” said **Rep. Gorsek**, who also has a background in law enforcement.

Rep. Piluso echoed the sentiments of her colleagues.

“Successful enforcement in Gresham means fewer gang members conducting their trafficking, violence, and criminal enterprises across the state,” she said.

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