



Sept. 25, 2019

Dear Oregon Sunshine Committee members:

In May, the Oregon Territory Society of Professional Journalists wrote to you suggesting that there was an opportunity to more robustly fulfill your mission as an advisory body to the Legislature, by forming a subcommittee “to continue and advance the work of the PII subcommittee — only with a focus on PII released in bulk data form,” and to make a recommendation to the Legislature in advance of the 2020 short session.

Since then it has come to our attention that on June 20, in her signing letter for House Bill 2016, Governor Kate Brown specifically urged the Sunshine Committee to take on essentially the same task and report to the Legislature in December.

While the standing subcommittee has had some initial deliberations, we would encourage Committee members to, if possible, use a portion of today’s meeting to discuss the time frame necessary to formulate and adopt a recommendation by December.

As we mentioned in our initial request, your work on this matter should not only serve the public on this particular issue, it could help set precedent for the OSC to more directly and in real time assist the Legislature in its deliberations about public records law in the future.

Thank you as always for your contributions.

-Nick Budnick, board member, Oregon Territory Society of Professional Journalists. Co-chair, OTSPJ Freedom of Information Committee