

TESTIMONY OF
RICHARD F. LAMOUNTAIN
BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSE BILL 2932
MARCH 18, 2019

Thank you. My name is Richard LaMountain, and I live in Washington County.

Many years ago, while serving overseas in a war zone, I had thought that at least one reason I was there was to help protect Americans from foreign threats. At the time, I never would have dreamt that elected officials in my own country might knowingly take action that would heighten the threat that foreign bad actors could pose to my fellow citizens. But I was wrong. If it's passed, House Bill 2932, which has been co-sponsored by seven members of this committee, will do just that.

This bill is one of the most irresponsible in the history of the Oregon legislature. Our state should help enforce, not undermine, U.S. immigration law and the American citizens and sovereignty that law is designed to protect. But this bill would have our state do exactly the opposite. It would force our judges to remain ignorant of any violations of immigration law that may have been committed by defendants before them. In doing so, it would force those judges, who are charged with ensuring justice, to help illegal aliens in their courts escape justice, to remain in our country, to potentially commit more crimes, and by their very presence here to continue mocking the laws enacted to protect our citizens and sovereignty.

It is beyond ironic that the emergency clause appended to this bill states that it is "necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety." It is, of course, "necessary" for nothing of the sort. But it is a necessary step toward the main goal of the "social justice warriors" who now call the shots in this legislature, that goal being to obliterate the distinction between illegal aliens and legal immigrants and even, eventually, between illegal aliens and American citizens.

This bill puts the interests of criminal illegal aliens above the safety of Oregonians, forces our state to abdicate its responsibilities to the nation of which it is a part, and mocks the rule of law that once made that nation the greatest on earth.