

I am a member of Power Hooker Tackle, LLC. Our business requested the information about license holders from ODFW for marketing purposes. I was shocked and dismayed to see that it included the names, ages, gender and addresses of little children. This information is available to anyone at all through a public records request.

As a licensed Oregon Teacher, I am obligated to look after the safety of our young people. I think most parents would be stunned to see that their child's information is available to the public. Directories with this type of information were eliminated decades ago in public school settings.

It is disconcerting that complaining to ODFW about this practice yielded no results. I contacted The Oregon Alliance and they became involved in getting this safety matter the proper attention. Senator Gelser did the research and introduced this bill to create a statutory change allowing the information about children under 16 to be withheld.

I support this measure and I am concerned there may be other agencies and departments within the state that disclose information that rightfully should remain private.

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