

Dear Chair Bynum and members of the Committee,

I'm writing to urge you to support HB3265, the Sanctuary Promise Act. HB3265 strengthens Oregon's current sanctuary law, which passed with bipartisan support over three decades ago.

Our communities are vibrant only when people feel safe to be in them. Our local resources are wasted when they get entangled in a broken Federal immigration system, and it makes people hesitant to engage in the community, testify in court, or even call for help in an emergency. No one should be afraid of first responders; this only drives people underground, making them vulnerable to exploitation by actual criminals. So-called "cooperation" with ICE has led to people in my community being targeted, harassed, and illegally detained by ICE agents for the color of their skin.

As a Christian who loves my neighbor and believes that all people are created in the image of God, I reject the disingenuous rhetoric that seeks to demonize my neighbors who came here from different countries, and that distracts from the root evils of systemic racism and economic and environmental injustice that require our full attention.

For the sake of our communities I urge you to support HB3265.

Thank you for your attention to this important bill,

Geoff Frasier