

Portland Buddhist Peace Fellowship

TO: House Judiciary Committee

Letter in Support of HB 3265

The Portland Buddhist Peace Fellowship (PBPF) writes in support of HB 3265.

Oregon's Sanctuary Promise Act (House Bill 3265) is needed for our immigrant communities now more than ever before to make all Oregonians feel more safe while being in our state. The immigrant community in Oregon has suffered brutally in recent years.

They have been profiled, targeted by social media and made to live in a near constant state of fear. Imagine people in our community afraid to receive medical help or food assistance. This is inhumane and unacceptable to anyone with any compassion for another human being.

Oregon's current sanctuary law was reaffirmed by 63% of the electorate in 2018. But there is a gap between the protections that Oregonians want and believe are embodied in law and the reality of actual ICE actions. This bill fills that gap and clearly defines the role of local law enforcement with regard to the ICE presence in our state.

If passed, this will be one of the strongest sanctuary laws in the country. Oregonians can be the example of what is possible in an open and compassionate society. This message is more important now than it ever has been. We need to make a statement about Oregonian values and the Oregon way by passing HB 3265.

PBPF shares the Vision and Mission of the Buddhist Peace Fellowship, founded in 1978. As a national organization, we share the History of the Buddhist Peace Fellowship. The Portland branch of the organization was organized in 2001 and continues to evolve.

PBPF