

I write in support of HB 3265: the Sanctuary Promise Act.

I am a clergy person in Bend, and this past August, we saw Immigration and Customs Enforcement come to our city and abduct two of our neighbors. Hundreds of residents turned out in support of those neighbors, and we were horrified by the behavior of law enforcement-- those charged with serving and protecting. Two families were torn apart that day, and their children returned to school that autumn with a much more precarious situation at home. That event is just an example of the fact that family separation, and law enforcement compliance with ICE, touches every part of our community.

I am incredibly proud that Oregon is a sanctuary state. This is a public reflection of my deeply held belief that every human being is imbued with dignity and worth. Spiritually, economically, and politically, we know that immigrant neighbors are vital parts of our communities. We NEED to strengthen our state's sanctuary law.

Thank you for your consideration.

Rev. Erika Spaet
Bend