



Chair Bynum, Vice-Chairs Noble and Power, and Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

Thank you for allowing the time for us to speak on this important issue today. My name is Isa Peña and I am the Interim Executive Director of Causa, Oregon's immigrant rights organization. **I want to urge you to strongly support HB 3265 to continue to protect Oregon families and preserve our local resources.**

In 2018, Causa and several of the organizations in support of this policy defeated an effort to repeal our current 34+ year sanctuary law through Measure 105. During this process, we saw Oregonians overwhelmingly support maintaining and strengthening our state sanctuary law. We believe that House Bill 3265 addresses the gaps in our current state law by: protecting Oregonians from unfair deportations and immigration exclusions, putting an end to racial profiling based on perceived immigration status, creating accountability of local agencies, prohibiting detention contracts and private detention centers, and preventing warrantless arrests in and around courthouses.

As a Latina and daughter of immigrants, this policy directly impacts how I interact with law enforcement. I have lived in fear and know what this means for immigrant Oregonians; I know that I will be safer, and will rely on local law enforcement if I know they are not unfairly targeting people, including US citizens, based on their perceived undocumented status. I know that if we end the collaboration between state and local law enforcement, we will be using our state resources to support rather than target Oregonians.

This policy will build trust between our local law enforcement and all Oregonians because it would prevent local law enforcement and local governments from working and communicating with federal agents for the purpose of immigration enforcement. This is essential for our communities - we know that when everyone feels like they can trust law enforcement, they are more likely to report crimes, participate in civic life and live without fear of being detained or harrassed unfairly by federal immigration authorities. I have seen first hand the fear that is instilled in communities where local law enforcement has cooperated with ICE and the mistrust that this causes for Oregonians to see their neighbors unfairly targeted.

This bill disentangles collaboration with ICE, creates accountability for racialized harm, and safeguards Oregonians from family separation and continued anti-immigrant hate. I urge you to support HB 3265 and protect all Oregonians and preserve Oregon resources.

Thank you,  
Isa Peña  
Interim Executive Director  
Causa Oregon

