

House Committee on Economic Recovery and Prosperity
Testimony in Support of HB 4074

February 2, 2022

Chair Lively, Vice-Chairs Cate & Kropf, Representatives
Bonham, Hudson, Levy, Prusak, Ruiz, Wallan, Witt,

For the record, my name is Jonathan Chavez Baez, Chair of
the [Oregon Commission on Hispanic Affairs](#) (OCHA). I want
to take this opportunity to strongly encourage the committee
to pass House Bill 4074, which would ameliorate the
ongoing humanitarian crisis in connection with illicit
marijuana grows.

1. OCHA works toward ensuring economic, social, political, and legal equity for Oregon's Hispanic population. We do this through advocacy, public policy research, leadership development, and partnerships.
2. In our statutory role of bringing equity focus and community voice into Oregon policy making, OCHA strongly supports HB 4074.

OCHA strongly support HB 4074 because this legislation would enhance state-sanctioned testing for THC and would require employees and workers to report human trafficking activities taking place.

Regrettably, the state of Oregon is experiencing an alarming humanitarian crisis right now. The levels of human trafficking taking place in unregulated and illicit cannabis production sites is devastating. The conditions some of these workers experience are atrocious,

**Oregon Commission
on Hispanic Affairs**

Chair:

Jonathan Chavez Baez

Vice-Chair:

Ashley Espinoza Valdez

Commissioners:

Irma Linda Castillo
Dr. Daniel López-Cevallos
Gustavo Morales
Josefina Riggs

Legislative Member:

Representative Andrea Salinas

**Oregon Advocacy Commissions
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Albert Lee, Executive Director
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Dr. Kyl Myers, Public Affairs



unhealthy, and a total violation of human rights. The stories coming out of Jackson and Josephine Counties are so barbaric that it is hard to believe they are taking place in the United States.

OCHA strongly believes that it is time for this situation to be addressed. These working people deserve the right to work in an environment where they feel safe, get treated with respect and most importantly, their rights are protected.

The state of Oregon cannot allow the continual abuse and violation of human rights to this workforce. We urge you to pass HB 4074.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. B. ...', written in a cursive style.

Chair – Oregon Commission on Hispanic Affairs

