



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Dear Chair Sosa, Vice-Chairs Chaichi and Osborne,

My name is Willy Chotzen, and I am proud to represent House District 46, which includes many beautiful neighborhoods in Southeast Portland.

A few weeks ago, I had the opportunity to speak with you about data privacy—an issue of profound importance to my constituents. At that time, we discussed the importance of protecting the personal data of children and the precise geolocation data of all Oregonians. We talked about the information that reveals where we live, where we go to school, where we recreate, where we seek healthcare, where we pray, and where we work. That was in the context of HB 3899.

Since then, I've been grateful to engage in a robust stakeholder process. We heard from a number of people who raised thoughtful concerns, particularly around implementation and definitions. I'm happy to report that we brought those voices to the table and had good-faith conversations about how to move forward in a way that is both effective and positive. Some of those stakeholders will be speaking later in this hearing.

I want to thank everyone who participated in those discussions. In the middle of a busy session, it's no small thing to bring people together to form good policy. Based on those conversations, I am pleased to bring forward HB 2008-3, which distills HB 3899 to its essential goals: (1) to protect the data of children under 16, and (2) to protect the precise location data of all Oregonians.

These are the only two objectives of this bill, but they are vitally important. Protecting this data is about safeguarding our privacy, ensuring our safety, and affirming that our whereabouts and the personal details of our lives, and those of our children, belong to us. No one should be allowed to buy, sell, or profit from that information.

The need for this protection is clear. Location data is a multi-billion-dollar industry built on collecting and selling our movements, often without our consent. This sensitive data is frequently used in ways that expose people to scams, stalking, and discriminatory profiling. Researchers have found that even just four points of location data are enough to identify most individuals. Some companies collect and share this data every few seconds, building detailed profiles that can then be sold and resold. This bill ensures that Oregonians' most sensitive data is not exploited for profit.

I appreciate your time, welcome your questions, and urge your support for HB 2008-3.

Thank you for your consideration,
Representative Willy Chotzen

Willy Chotzen