

Chair Taylor, Vice-Chair Bonham and Members of the Committee:

My name is John Christensen. I live in Corbett, and I strongly support SB 1119. Over the last 3 months the Trump administration has taken draconian steps to arrest, detain, and deport immigrants and refugees, many of them here legally, some U.S. citizens. The administration has ignored due process and the rule of law in these detentions in violation of the Constitution. Oregon has an opportunity with SB 1119 to add a layer of protection for these vulnerable populations, many of whom are in the U.S. to flee persecution, torture, and death in their countries of origin. Immigrants and refugees should be safe in their workplace from harassment by ICE and other federal agents. Since we are all immigrants or descendants of immigrants in the U.S., when the rights of some are violated, the rights of all of us are violated. Do the right thing and advance SB 1119 for a vote of the Senate.