

Emerson Levy
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
House District 53



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

April 7th, 2025

Chair Kropf, Vice-Chairs Wallan and Chotzen, and Members of the Committee,

For the record, my name is Emerson Levy, and I am the State Representative for House District 53, representing parts of Bend, Sisters, Redmond, and Tumalo. I am here this afternoon to discuss HB 3839, a bill that ensures crucial public safety information is made available to our schools.

Under this bill, the Department of State Police will be required to release Level 1 and Level 2 sex offender information to school districts and entities that provide school visitor management services, through programs specifically in Bend La Pine like Raptor. Right now only Level 3 offenses (the most egregious) are reported.

Those with 1-3 Class would not be permitted access to the school as a visitor. The volunteer application process already has access to 1-3 and unclassified. A visitor is a parent or caregiver who is coming by for a play or classroom visit, and does not have to go through the same background check. This means any person can enter the campus even as a Level 1 or 2 offender.

HB 3839 strengthens the ability of our schools to be proactive in safeguarding students. It is essential that we recognize and address the risk posed by individuals who have been convicted of serious crimes. Level 1 and Level 2 sex offenders, while not as high risk as Level 3 offenders, still represent a potential danger. By ensuring that their information is made available to schools and school-related entities, we empower school administrators, teachers, and security staff to better respond to threats and to take appropriate actions to protect our students.

Our children deserve to attend school free from fear and the possibility of harm from individuals who pose a known risk. Our parents and caretakers deserve to drop their kids off, in full confidence of their safety on campus. This legislation is an important step in our efforts to make our schools and communities safer for all.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important measure.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Emerson Levy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "E".

Emerson Levy

State Representative, House District 53