

Submitter: D Torres  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB277  
Chair & Committee Members,

I OPPOSE SB 277.

OR 181A.823 prohibits enforcement agencies or public bodies from sharing or collecting immigration or citizenship status. HB 2466 and SB 277 adds an exception allowing for the sharing of data as needed to affect an international extradition and return of a person charged with or convicted of a crime in this state and for whom a warrant of arrest has been issued. Who pays for their return? Oregonian tax dollars? Why are we creating laws to protect illegal alien criminals? Does this make any sense at all? To top it off, the latter statement in the overview is quite disturbing: "Prohibits a law enforcement agency or public body from entering into an agreement to provide information about an individual in custody to a federal immigration authority"

First of all, the ability of local and federal agencies to work together is vital for upholding public safety. Immigration enforcement, like any area of federal law, requires a coordinated effort. Prohibiting law enforcement from even entering into agreements to provide information to immigration authorities undermines that cooperation and may hinder efforts to remove individuals who pose a genuine threat to the community—especially those with prior convictions or active warrants.

Secondly, this bill would create a rigid wall between local and federal enforcement agencies, even in cases where communication could enhance public safety. Sharing basic custody information should not be controversial, particularly when it involves individuals already detained for criminal conduct. This information-sharing is not about targeting communities—it is about ensuring that individuals with serious legal issues are not simply released back into the public without appropriate oversight. Don't we have enough crime already? To purposely thwart the efforts of federal law enforcement, endangering others by releasing known illegal alien criminals onto our streets for federal officers to find and capture again is beyond believable that any legislator would support such an action, purposely endangering their own citizens!

The proposed restrictions set a troubling precedent where state and local agencies are explicitly directed not to cooperate with federal law enforcement in carrying out federal law. We do not allow this kind of non-cooperation in other areas of federal enforcement—why should immigration be treated differently? Selective disengagement from federal law undermines the very principle of equal application of

the law.

While the bill contains exceptions, these may be too limited to adequately address public safety concerns. Law enforcement officers should not be forced to navigate vague legal boundaries when dealing with serious cases involving violent offenders or organized crime. This risks both confusion and missed opportunities to prevent further harm.

For the safety of ALL Oregonians and visitors to this state. **DO NOT PASS THIS BILL! STOP PROTECTING CRIMINALS AND PLEASE PUT OUR CITIZENS FIRST!**