

We urge you to join me in supporting HB 4079.

In 2025 the federal government rescinded the sensitive locations guidance in relation to federal immigration enforcement in and around school campuses. This has opened up new responsibilities for public entities, now not knowing what may bring federal enforcement to their door. We all hope that public institutions remain safe places for all Oregonians, particularly schools, but it is not enough to simply hope. Preparing for emergencies, even those that do not immediately occur, is the responsible thing to do.

On November 6, 2025 several schools ended up going into lockdown¹ procedures due to federal enforcement happening in the immediate neighborhoods. Schools were faced with determining how to respond in the moment. What communication needed to go out and when? Who needed to be informed? Was there anything required by law to do or not do; say or not say? Since then other schools have had to grapple with the same questions, from Wilsonville² to Salem³.

HB 4079 makes a clear statement that we should not wait for bad things to happen when we can learn from others and make plans to keep students safe and informed. Knowledge is key to safety and stability, especially in school communities. With increases in absenteeism connected to fear around enforcement tactics, communities need to be reassured that if something happens on their school campus their school will let them know.

Nearly 200,00 children, and 10% of Oregon's overall population identify as immigrant households. And 100% of students and families deserve clear and timely communication about incidents that occur at their schools.

We need you to stand with community members, students and their families.

OREGON PARTNERS *for* EDUCATION JUSTICE



¹ <https://www.oregonlive.com/news/2025/11/portland-schools-go-on-lockdown-due-to-immigration-enforcement-activity.html>

²

<https://www.kgw.com/article/news/politics/immigration-news/ice-agents-surveillance-near-wilsonville-middle-school/283-5a3bb320-9a3b-49cd-bd71-ee3d734682db>

³ <https://www.salemreporter.com/2025/10/16/immigration-arrests-in-near-salem-prompt-schools-to-reinforce-safety-plans/>

From The Desk of Rep. Finger McDermid
Sarah McDermid

STAND WITH IMMIGRANT OREGONIANS

Immigrant Oregonians, our families, and communities have been targeted by violent, lawless ICE sweeps resulting in community-wide fear and devastating family separations. No family should have to plan for parents being torn from their children.

Budget neutral or cost-effective solutions to keep families together

These reckless federal attacks demand a strong, unified response. Oregonians know we are stronger together. When immigrant communities are targeted, families struggle, our economy suffers, and critical systems are pushed to a breaking point.

2026 IMMIGRANT JUSTICE PACKAGE

CRITICAL INVESTMENTS

- Universal Representation & Children's Stability Fund
- Maintain Healthier Oregon Program
- School Meals For All
- Food Assistance for Refugees & Immigrants
- Oregon's Food Assistance Network
- Protect SNAP

BUDGET-NEUTRAL PROTECTIONS

- Safeguarding Students and Families
- Stop Data Brokers from Sharing Our Info
- Protect Your Door Act
- Public Contracts Prohibition
- Anti-Discrimination Protections
- Law Enforcement Accountability and Visibility Act (LEAVA)
- Healthcare without Fear

