

Submitter: Tanya Macedo
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Education
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4079

Hello,

I am writing to express my strong support for the bill relating to policies governing how federal immigration authorities enter and interact with public education property in Oregon.

Schools and institutions of higher education must remain safe, stable, and trusted environments for students, families, and educators. Requiring school districts and higher education governing bodies to adopt clear, consistent policies for responding when federal immigration authorities enter school property provides much-needed guidance and protection during situations that can otherwise be confusing, disruptive, and traumatic.

This bill does not interfere with federal law. Instead, it ensures that educators, administrators, and staff understand their rights and responsibilities, follow due process, and respond in a manner that prioritizes student safety, privacy, and continuity of learning. Clear policies help prevent panic, misinformation, and inconsistent responses that can disproportionately impact immigrant students and families—many of whom are integral members of our school communities.

Importantly, these policies also protect school employees by giving them clear direction during high-pressure situations, rather than leaving individual staff members to make legal decisions in the moment. Schools should be places of learning, not fear, and this legislation helps reinforce that principle.

Declaring this bill an emergency recognizes the real and immediate harm that uncertainty can cause in educational settings. Oregon has long demonstrated leadership in supporting inclusive, welcoming communities, and this bill is consistent with those values.

I urge you to support this legislation and ensure that Oregon's schools and campuses remain safe, predictable, and focused on education for all students.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Tanya Macedo