



Chair Kropf, Vice Chairs Chotzen and Wallan, and members of the Committee,

My name is Mica Contreras, and I am the Executive Director of the Linn Benton Lincoln Health Equity Alliance. I am writing to express my strong support for HB 4138. Community members have a basic right to know who is on our streets claiming to be law enforcement. Officers in Oregon should not operate while masked or without clear identification. Without visible identification, people feel afraid, confused, and can be harmed, especially when they are stopped, questioned, or harassed without knowing who is involved or what authority they have.

Right now, while law enforcement agents and others are harassing and intimidating people and communities across our state and country, we need accountability and visibility more than ever. When officers are not clearly identified, it erodes trust and makes it hard for people to know if an interaction is lawful, safe, or being monitored.

As a Regional Health Equity Coalition, we see firsthand how this fear is affecting communities and public health. People are skipping medical appointments, pharmacies, and other important services because they fear encountering unidentified law enforcement or people posing as law enforcement. Families are cutting back on daily activities, delaying care, and avoiding community spaces. This leads to worse health and greater inequities. This fear is a public health problem.

HB 4138 is an important step to rebuild trust by making sure law enforcement officers in Oregon clearly identify themselves and their agency. The bill also sets clear boundaries between state and local employees and federal enforcement, helping people move through their communities, get healthcare, and meet basic needs without fear.

For these reasons, I urge you to support HB 4138. Thank you for your service, time, and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mica Contreras".

Mica Contreras
Executive Director

