

2026-Feb-06

Supporting HB 4138: Law Enforcement Accountability and Visibility Act (LEAVA)

House Committee on Judiciary

Greetings Chair Kropf, Vice-Chairs Wallan and Chotzen, and Committee Members,

I serve as the Council President for the City of Talent, and also on the Board of Directors for Jackson County Fire District No. 5, serving a combined constituency of more than 23,000 people. I am writing in strong support of HB 4138, on behalf of myself and the constituents I represent, here in rural Southern Oregon.

The brutal assaults perpetuated by ICE on residents in Oregon and across the nation has undermined the feeling of safety even in our small rural towns. My constituents have shared with me their anger and dismay at how the continuous threat of deadly and lawless behavior by masked federal agents has prompted our neighbors to stay away from our schools and businesses, damaged the mental health of our youth, and chilled the very spirit of our communities.

HB 4138 provides reasonable protections to Oregonians by seeking to protect our constitutional rights and guard against the violation of our personal data. It ensures that law enforcement officers are properly identified and held accountable, and makes it harder for poorly-trained and poorly-supervised federal agents to pressure our local agencies.

ICE Agents, in their appearance and behavior, have proven themselves to be indistinguishable from domestic terrorists. The only responsible response is to use every instrument at our disposal to limit the harm ICE Agents can cause.

Thank you for your good work.

Sincerely,

Eleanor Ponomareff
Council President, Talent City Council
Director, Jackson County Fire District No. 5
Talent, Oregon