

Submitter:

Merri Steele

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4001

Chair Kropf, Vice-Chairs Chotzen and Wallan, Members of the House Committee on Judiciary,

This last year we have seen some federal officials, most notably ICE and Border patrol operate in Oregon and throughout the country in ways that are brutal, anonymous and not at all transparent. Their overly aggressive tactics have resulted in many people being injured and in a few instances killed. Some federal leaders have suggested that these officers have total immunity which makes it very difficult to hold these officials accountable for actions that are illegal often even denying people rights protected in the US and Oregon Constitutions. I support HB 4001 because it seeks to address this perilous situation by mandating the Oregon Department of Justice study the issue and come up with recommendations for changes in Oregon law that would increase accountability, allow for true due process, and lead to federal officials respecting the rights of all. I encourage your committee to move this bill back to the floor of the Oregon House with a recommendation for passage.

Respectfully,
Merri Steele