

From the desk of: *Rep. Jessica Vega Pederson*  
Rep. Vega Pederson

Kate Brown  
Governor



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### Protect Oregonians: Vote YES on HB 4128

*Notarios are not welcome in the USA*

In the United States, a notary public attests to public signatures – a limited role. But in Central and South America, a "notario" has the same legal status as a corporate attorney! Unsavory and predatory fraudsters get an otherwise legal notary public qualification and then advertise in Spanish to confuse people who want to obtain tax and legal advice (such as family law and immigration law). While Oregon law prohibits the unlawful practice of law by anyone other than a lawyer or a federally-licensed immigration consultant, the Oregon State Bar has no authority to enforce these notarios who are breaking the law. A recent federal indictment charges two notarios with victimizing over 40 Oregon citizens at more than \$1.5 million.

- HB 4128 gives a needed prosecutorial tool to law enforcement
- HB 4128 cleans up criminal law statutes by re-writing language which the Oregon Supreme Court has stricken down in other sections of criminal code
- HB 4128 allows the Oregon State Bar, the Oregon Secretary of State, and prosecutors to **work together** to prohibit notario fraud
- HB 4128 recognizes that someone can be extorted in ways other than strict theft – closing that loophole once and for all

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Legislative Liaisons:  
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Rep. Gene Whisnant

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Mari Watanabe  
OCAPIA Chair

James I. Manning  
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OCHA Chair

Dr. Barbara Spencer  
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A cross-coalition supports HB 4128: Oregon State Bar; Oregon Attorney General; Oregon Secretary of State; Oregon Crime Victims' Rights Enforcement; Oregon Commission on Hispanic Affairs; Oregon Commission on Black Affairs; Oregon Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs; Oregon Commission for Women; Multnomah County Human Trafficking Unit; Oregon's Criminal Defense Attorneys; Oregon prosecutors; Law enforcement throughout the state; Oregon immigration attorneys

**Minimal fiscal impact - A common sense, and needed solution**

This bill is a product of the 2015 taskforce on immigration consultants