



To: House Rules Committee
From: Causa Oregon
Re: Support HB 3464
Date: 6/7/2017

Dear Chair Jennifer Williamson, Vice-chairs, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of Causa Oregon, I urge your support for HB 3464. Causa is Oregon's Latino immigrant rights organization. Founded in 1995, we work to improve the lives of Latino immigrants and their families in Oregon through advocacy, coalition building, leadership development, and civic engagement.

Causa envisions a world where all people have the opportunities and resources needed to thrive. Our mission has become increasingly difficult to fulfill given the rise of raids and deportations, resulting in the separation of hundreds of Oregon families. Today, immigrant families who are an integral part of Oregon's cultural and economic fabric are living in fear and anxiety. For our immigrant neighbors, friends, and family members, fear has seeped through every aspect of their lives. Many are scared to take their children to school, go to the grocery store, or even open their door at home. Nobody should live with this kind of fear.

Indeed, there are recent and real life examples of families being separated here in Oregon. Children have been left without fathers and mothers. No child should be separated from their family. We must pass HB 3464 to protect the privacy of immigrant families by prohibiting the sharing of confidential information for the purpose of federal immigration enforcement.

Causa has heard from educators, school administrators and direct service providers that they need more clarity and consistency on the collection of sensitive information. The proposed bill would provide much needed guidance and procedures from the Attorney General to public bodies. HB 3464 strengthens our state's protections by changing the way public entities collect and share data, and provide much needed direction.

As an organization that works with and is rooted in the Latino immigrant community, we know how vital it is that families hear loud and clear from their State, that Oregon has a policy of not sharing their information for the purpose of separating families. Immigrants are our neighbors and colleagues, our friends and family, and deserve to be treated with dignity and respect regardless of their country of birth. Your vote to support HB 3464 upholds our values of dignity and respect for all people who call Oregon home.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Andrea Williams
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