



**Testimony of Kimberly McCullough, Legislative Director
In Support of HB 3464
House Committee on Rules
June 8, 2017**

Chair Williamson and Members of the Committee:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon¹ urges your support of HB 3464, which will strengthen Oregon's privacy protections for vulnerable immigrant communities and clarify information gathering and sharing with the federal government and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

The ACLU has long been a strong advocate for the rights of immigrants, refugees and non-citizens, challenging unconstitutional laws and practices, and countering the myths upon which these laws are based. Based on these values, the ACLU of Oregon enthusiastically supports HB 3464 as a crucial opportunity for the State of Oregon to support the safety and health of all of Oregon's communities and to live up to our ideals as a welcoming and inclusive state.²

The decisions of the current federal administration to implement aggressive immigration policies have placed entire communities in great fear that families will be torn apart and individuals deported—oftentimes to places where their lives will be in danger. Many of our friends and neighbors are afraid to leave their homes or go to courthouses and government buildings, and many children are afraid to go to school.

While the State of Oregon has no power to change these federal policies or priorities, we can take steps to protect the privacy of our vulnerable immigrant communities. We can also provide clear guidance to school administrators, judges, and other public entities about how to respond if ICE requests information, to ensure that we do everything within our abilities to protect our immigrant friends, family, and community members from excessive and aggressive federal overreach.

For all of these reasons, we urge your support of HB 3464. Please feel free to reach out with any questions or to discuss this further. Thank you for your time and consideration

¹ The American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon (ACLU of Oregon) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to preservation and enhancement of civil liberties and civil rights with more than 43,000 members across the State of Oregon.

² It was also because of these values that the ACLU of Oregon advocated for the successful passage in 1987 of ORS 181.850 (renumbered 181A.820), which prohibits local law enforcement from enforcing federal immigration laws that target people based on their race or ethnic origin when those individuals are not suspected of any criminal activity.