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STATE SENATOR
DISTRICT 21



OREGON STATE SENATE
900 COURT ST NE
SALEM, OR 97301

June 8, 2017

The Honorable Chair Williamson
Chair, House Committee on Rules
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Williamson and Members of the Committee,

I urge your support for Protecting the Privacy of Oregonians – House Bill 3464. I share the concerns of many of my constituents and colleagues regarding the direction the executive branch of our country's government has taken towards immigrants, and with all the horrific and heartbreaking stories of families that have been torn apart by ICE raids and deportation in our nation.

I am proud to support HB 3464 as a Chief Sponsor, and pleased that my colleagues, along with advocates and attorneys have created legislation to protect all immigrants and refugees in Oregon. It is important to promote inclusive policies to ensure Oregon is a safe place for all. We are a nation comprised of many diverse people and immigration has been a significant part of that story. It is essential to our values as a nation and to our humanity that we provide safety for those escaping persecution and violence.

It is known that there has been an increase in deportations in Oregon and this has created an environment of fear in our communities. I believe everyone deserves the ability to participate in our society and feel safe at work, at school, at home, or on the street, regardless of where you are from or what your documentation status is. I do not believe in criminalizing people for participation in public spaces and services. I am a proud sponsor of several bills in the legislature that address this issue of equal access to services for all Oregonians regardless of citizenship status, and I believe House Bill 3464 reinforces the intention of these bills and addresses issues of access.

I am confident that the Attorney General will provide comprehensive guidance as to how public bodies should comply with information requests from the United States Federal Government that respect the confidentiality of Oregonians while adhering to federal and state law. This will allow our state to better protect vulnerable Oregonians. Both personally and on behalf of the concerned constituents who live and work in Senate District 21, I urge the passage of House Bill 3464.

Sincerely,

State Senator Kathleen Taylor

