

I am writing in support of HB 4121, which would put an end to ICE contracts at NORCOR.

ICE has become a rogue agency with no accountability or governmental oversight. I've seen this first-hand in my work volunteering at the border in Brownsville, Texas, and also at the detention center in Tacoma and the ICE office in Eugene where I worked to support community members who had been detained. The presence of ICE officials makes our communities LESS safe, as community members fear coming forward to report crimes for fear that they or their family members will be detained.

Furthermore, Oregon is a sanctuary state, and as such, we have no business entering into contracts with ICE, let alone subsidizing this agency. Oregonians have made it clear through the passage of our Sanctuary Law that we do not want our public institutions or officials working as de facto members of Immigration and Customs Enforcement. I went door to door working to defeat Measure 105, and it was clear to me that people felt just as strongly about this now as they did when the law was passed in 1987. The contract between ICE and the Northern Oregon Regional Correctional Facility (NORCOR) is in clear violation of the Sanctuary Law as well as the will of the majority of Oregonians.

Sincerely,

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