

Angela Walker  
Home Church:  
Salem Mennonite Church  
Hometown:  
Amity, OR

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Dear Chair Bynum and members of the committee,

I write to you today to urge you to pass HB 3265, The Sanctuary Promise Act. This piece of legislation will get us closer to a horizon in which all Oregonians feel their families are safe, secure and protected. As a person whose faith is rooted in the Christian tradition, I hold deeply that our policies must center the humanity in all of us. This piece of legislation does that by expanding our decades-old Sanctuary law so that more people in my community feel safe from unfair harassment and profiling going to work, going to get groceries, or driving to their places of worship.

I care about this bill because I want to see the most vulnerable in our society protected. With the horrific shootings in the last week it is clear that the rhetoric we use and the priorities we make politically impact people's lives significantly. As a person of color I am tired of worrying about my safety from those who feel free to act on bigoted beliefs as well as wondering whether I will be treated fairly if I have to interact with the US legal system.

As a leader in the Interfaith Movement for Immigrant Justice (IMIJ), I am part of a network of people of faith and fierce love who have sought to support an increase of justice for immigrants and people of color. While it can often be hard to see as we navigate language in a bill, this law is really about people and communities together ensuring that all Oregonians feel safer. I urge you to pass HB 3265.

Thank you for your work and attention,

Angela Walker