

Submitter: Beatrice Perkins

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4079

Chair Hudson and all the members of the House Committee on Education,

My name is Beatrice Perkins. I'm a high school student living in Milwaukie. I am writing in strong support of HB 4079 to Safeguard Students and Families.

Federal guidance designating schools as “sensitive areas” was rescinded in 2025 created uncertainty regarding on-campus ICE actions. Federal enforcement actions have increased in the areas around schools. In recent months, schools have been forced to go into lockdown procedures, sometimes several schools in a single day. Schools are hubs of learning, engagement, and safety, and they must remain that way. Any time there is an incident involving law enforcement or unknown persons with access to weapons in or around school locations, there must be a clear process and communication.

This bill lays out proactive and reactive communication expectations to keep everyone safe. Consistent application and consistent communication are needed so that all students, parents, and staff, regardless of which school they attend, are able to be safe and informed when something happens in their community. Oregonians know that when we are informed, we can be stronger together.

HB 4079 is part of the 2026 Immigrant Justice Package and is backed by a broad coalition of immigrant justice advocates, civil liberties groups, unions, and community-based organizations. I urge you to support these community-led policies to protect the freedoms of all Oregonians.

Sincerely,
Beatrice Perkins