



February 3, 2026

Chair Zach Hudson

Vice-Chair April Dobson

Vice-Chair Emily McIntire

Members of the House Education Committee

Dear Chair Hudson, Vice-Chairs Dobson and McIntire, and Members of the Committee,

We are [Oregon Partners for Education Justice](#) (OPEJ), a cross-cultural network of community-based organizations, culturally specific service providers, and education advocates working together to advance a high-quality, racially just, and community-centered public education system for Oregon.

**We are writing in support of HB 4079 to Safeguard Students and Families.**

In classrooms, neighborhoods, and communities across our state, children and families are justifiably afraid. Many of us serve students directly, and it has become abundantly clear that federal immigration enforcement actions are impacting learning, school attendance, and students' well-being. HB 4079 would seek to standardize communication about immigration enforcement raids so that communities can work together to keep students safe.

Enforcement actions have increased in the areas around schools, since federal guidance designating schools as "sensitive areas" was rescinded in 2025. In recent months, ICE actions have forced schools to activate lockdown procedures, sometimes several schools in a single day.

Clear processes and notifications are critical any time there is an incident involving law enforcement or unknown persons with access to weapons on school property for students' safety. HB 4079 lays out proactive and reactive communication expectations related to ICE presence on campus, to keep everyone safe. Consistent application and communication are needed across the state so that all students, parents and staff — regardless of which Oregon school they attend — are able to be safe and informed.

Sincerely,

### **Oregon Partners for Education Justice**

Adelante Mujeres

APANO

Arts in Education of the Gorge

Capaces Leadership Institute

Center for Black Excellence

Children's Institute

Consejo Hispano

EUVALCREE

FACT Oregon

Foundations for a Better Oregon

IRCO

KairosPDX

Latino Network

MESA Oregon

NAYA Action Fund

Open School

Oregon Coalition of Community

Charter Schools

Project LEDO

REAP, Inc.

Salem/Keizer Coalition for

Equality

Stand for Children

Urban League of Portland

Self Enhancement, Inc.

### **CONTACT:**

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