

2/3/2026

Testimony in support of bill HB 4114

House Committee on Judiciary

Chair Kropf, Vice Chairs Chotzen and Wallan, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Sam Guthman, she/her, and I am the Policy Manager for APANO a culturally-specific organization that unites Asians and the communities who stand with us to build power, develop leaders and advance equity through organizing, advocacy, community development and cultural work and I am submitting testimony in strong support of HB 4114, the Protect Your Door Act.

Immigrant Oregonians, their families, and their communities are living under the threat of violent, lawless federal immigration enforcement. Across the country, reckless ICE sweeps have caused devastating family separations and widespread fear. *No family should have to plan for the possibility that a parent could be taken from their children simply for answering their own front door.*

These federal attacks demand a strong and unified response from our state. When immigrant communities are targeted, families are destabilized, workers are pushed into the shadows, and entire communities suffer. Fear keeps people from seeking health care, sending children to school, reporting crimes, or engaging with public institutions. That harm ripples outward and affects all of us. It affects your constituents. It affects you and your family.

HB 4114 strengthens the fundamental constitutional right to be secure in one's home. It makes clear that no government agent has the authority to enter a private residence without a valid warrant signed by a judge or the consent of the occupant. When that right is violated, the Protect Your Door Act creates real accountability by allowing individuals to be held personally responsible for the harm they cause. **Constitutional rights are only meaningful when they are enforceable**, and too often immigrant families have seen their rights violated with no consequences for those responsible.

This bill is especially urgent as recent reporting shows federal immigration agents claiming they can enter private homes using internal administrative warrants rather than judicial warrants. Administrative warrants are issued by agency officials, not neutral judges, and have long been recognized as an insufficient basis for forced entry. HB 4114 directly addresses this dangerous overreach by reinforcing long-established constitutional protections against unreasonable searches and seizures.

For Asian, BIPOC, immigrant, and refugee communities, the home is a place of safety, cultural connection, and stability. When that safety is threatened, the harm is profound and unspeakable. HB 4114 helps restore trust by making clear that constitutional protections apply equally to everyone, regardless of immigration status, and that unlawful intrusions will not be tolerated. This reassurance is essential to rebuilding trust in government and supporting community safety.

APANO has been asked to be a partner in an immigration response network that helps families and communities alike, a duty we heavily accept and do our best to contribute to. Every single day we receive reports and calls about friends, families, daughters, sons, taken by illegal agents in our neighbourhoods. Just this week, we were alerted about a man who was taken to an ICE detention facility just for the way he looked. For 20 days, he was denied access to interpretation services, communication with his family, medical services; **basic human rights**. His family approached us asking to find out information if this man was alive. Not when he would be released, not how they could pursue legal action, simply to know if he was alive. During his unlawful 20 day detention, he missed several doctors appointments for a serious kidney condition that required regular appointments which caused his own medical care team to contact this ICE detention center. Only recently have we been able to make contact, but he still remains unlawfully held.

His hands and feet were bound. He cried over and over again for help to ignorant people that denied him the information to understand what was happening to him. He was left alone, with no human decency, no way to contact his family. Our communities tremble at the injustices seen everyday inflicted by the same country that promised to honour the rule of law.

Do not let this story become more of a norm than it already has. Do not let hidden actors destroy the way of life within our state. Stand with our immigrant families and communities. Fight for the safety and well-being of people who can't speak up for themselves.

I urge you to vote YES on HB 4114. Protect your door and mine.

Sam Guthman
Policy Manager
APANO Communities United Fund