



To: Chair Hudson and members of the education committee

Re: Support bill HB4079

Date: February 4th, 2026

Latino Network was founded in 1996 by advocates for the needs of the growing Latinx community in Multnomah County. Since then, these grassroots beginnings have evolved into a continuum of services that support Latinx individuals, families, and communities. Our programs currently focus on education, advocacy & leadership, health & wellness, economic justice, youth empowerment & violence prevention, and arts & culture, engaging nearly 11,000 community members throughout Multnomah, Clackamas, and Washington Counties in the last year. We are the leading culturally-specific provider for Latinx youth, parent, and family services in the Portland area with the goal of serving the nearly 19% of Oregon's population who identify as Latinx or Hispanic.

At Latino Network, we provide services to students from kindergarten through 12th grade, as well as first-year university students. Our mission is to ensure students have access to culturally representative programming, mentorship, and support so they can succeed throughout their educational journey.

However, the increase in ICE activity and immigration enforcement threats has created fear and instability in our communities, directly impacting students' ability to learn and feel safe at school. Parents and caregivers are keeping their children home out of fear of being separated from them, worsening the attendance challenges the state is already facing. In response, we have seen parents, allies, and community members step in to ensure students can be dropped off and picked up safely.

Community members should not have to fill this gap alone. Now is the time for the state and our schools to step up. For this reason, we strongly urge legislators to require school districts and campuses to promptly notify students and/or parents or guardians when federal immigration enforcement personnel—such as ICE or CBP—enter school property, as mandated. Parents and caregivers should feel out of the loop.

These notification policies must be implemented in full compliance with FERPA, lawful warrant requirements, and Oregon's Sanctuary Promise, while prioritizing student safety, transparency, and trust. Schools should be places of learning and community. For many immigrant families, school is their only safe space. That safety is being threatened—and in some cases lost—because schools are not consistently meeting their legal and moral obligations to protect students and families.

Please vote yes on HB 4079 in protecting families, students and schools in Oregon.

Thank you
Yesenia