

TO: House Committee on Education

RE: Pass HB 4079 to keep students and families safe and informed

My name is Sammi Teo and I live in Portland. I am writing in **strong support of HB 4079 to keep students and families safe and informed.**

Students depend on school as a place to safely learn and engage with one another. Education and community are foundational to preparing children for adulthood. Schools must remain hubs of learning, engagement, and safety.

However, the Trump Administration has eliminated more than thirty years of protections for schools. Immigration enforcement actions in the areas around schools have increased. In recent months, schools and children have been forced to go into lockdown, sometimes several schools in a single day. Students are now afraid to go to school as parents fear for their children's safety at school, and school staff face uncertainty.

HB 4079 allows for clear, consistent communication procedures that staff, students, and families can rely on.

This is why I urge you to pass HB 4079 to Safeguard Students and Families. HB 4079 lays out proactive and reactive communication expectations to keep everyone safe. Consistent application and clear communication is needed so that Oregon's students, parents, and staff are able to be safe and informed when something happens in their community. When we are informed, we are 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 rise to this moment and support these community-led policies to protect the freedoms of all Oregonians.

Sincerely,
Sammi Teo
Portland, Oregon