



Chair Kropf, Vice Chairs Chotzen and Wallan and the House Judiciary Committee Members,

My name is Seth Johnstone and I work for Basic Rights Oregon.

This bill addresses federal agents obscuring their identification by wearing masks, other than those described in the bill such as medical masks or helmets for vehicle safety, ensuring Oregonians don't know who is detaining them. Federal agents are breaking car windows, waiting outside of our states schools, targeting homes of individuals and taking people from our streets without identifying themselves or providing judicial warrants.

The bill will also create a firewall between public employees and the federal government, increase public transparency into joint federal task forces, and establish requirements for future agreements to protect the rights of all Oregonians. Having masked agents on our streets unidentifiable and unaccountable to anyone is a safety risk for everyone in our state.

Residents we support are distressed, concerned to leave their homes and go to schools or seek healthcare in areas where federal immigration agency offers are showing up in public spaces and trying to enter private spaces. The intentional attempt to evade identification while working as a federal employee is unacceptable and dangerous to our communities. We ask that you create accountability through supporting this House bill in Oregon.