



Representative Lamar Wise
Oregon House District 48

HB 4111 - Immigrant Discrimination Protection

House Judiciary | February 4th 2026 3:00 PM

Chair, Vice Chairs and members of the committee: For the record, my name is Representative Lamar Wise, and I represent House District 48, serving communities in outer Southeast Portland and North Clackamas County. I am proud to be a sponsor of House Bill 4111, and I urge your support.

HB 4111 advances a simple but powerful principle: justice, workplace fairness, and public safety should never depend on a person's immigration status.

First, this bill strengthens the integrity of our civil justice system. By limiting the admissibility of immigration status in civil proceedings, except when it is truly essential, HB 4111 prevents the misuse of immigration status as a tactic to intimidate, distract, or silence parties and witnesses. Courts should focus on the facts of the case and the merits of the claim, not on personal characteristics that are irrelevant to liability or harm. The carefully tailored exceptions and confidentiality safeguards in this bill ensure fairness while protecting due process.

Second, HB 4111 provides critical workplace protections. Too many workers face retaliation or adverse action simply for updating their employment authorization after a lawful change. This bill makes clear that compliance with federal law should never be grounds for punishment. Protecting workers from retaliation not only upholds basic fairness, it also promotes stable workplaces and a stronger economy for all Oregonians.

Third, the bill updates Oregon's definition of law enforcement profiling to explicitly include immigration status. This clarification reinforces what many of us already believe: public safety is strongest when law enforcement actions are based on behavior and evidence, not assumptions about who someone is or where they come from. Communities are safer when residents trust that interacting with law enforcement will not put them at risk simply because of their perceived immigration status.

In House District 48, I represent families who contribute every day to our schools, small businesses, and local economy, many of whom want nothing more than to live, work, and participate in civic life without fear. HB 4111 affirms that Oregon remains committed to dignity, fairness, and equal protection under the law.

This bill does not create special treatment. It ensures consistent, lawful, and just treatment, in our courts, our workplaces, and our communities.

I respectfully ask for your support of House Bill 4111. Thank you for your time and consideration.