

Good Afternoon Chair Prozanski and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

My name is Kayse Jama and I am the Senator for District 24, covering East Portland, Damascus, and Boring.

I am here to urge your support for Senate Bill 1594, a bill that addresses a critical gap in how our state agencies handle federal requests for data on immigrant and refugee Oregonians.

A lack of clear public facing guidelines on how to respond to these inquiries has led to increased concerns from community members about the safety of their personal data.

SB 1594 will help agencies respond to federal requests for data on immigrant and refugee Oregonians, in ways that are consistent with our state's existing sanctuary laws. It also ensures that the Office of Immigrant and Refugee advancement remains central in the creation of these protocols.

This bill does not alter any existing sanctuary laws, but will codify existing internal practices to provide clarity for workers and increased protections for Oregonians worried about federal overreach in immigration enforcement.

After talking with the Governor's office, we have requested a small amendment to better align the bill with these existing practices, build on work already done, and avoid any additional costs to the state.

For our communities, consistency and clarity mean safety. This bill simply ensures that every agency follows the same playbook, every time.

At its core, this is about trust. When families interact with state government, they should know that their information is handled consistently and lawfully.

SB 1594 helps us deliver on that promise.

I respectfully ask for your aye vote and am happy to take any questions.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Kayse Jama', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.