



February 5, 2026

RE: COIN Testimony in Support of Safeguarding Students and Families, HB 4079

Dear Chair Kropf, Vice-Chairs Chotzen and Wallan, and Members of the House Committee on the Judiciary:

I am writing on behalf of the Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network - COIN - in strong support of the Safeguarding Students and Families bill, HB 4079. COIN is a network of more than 70 Indivisible groups across Oregon that work to protect our democracy, including the right of Oregonians to safe schools free of intimidation, discrimination, and retribution, particularly when inflicted by so-called government agencies. Accountability of government agencies is central to democracy.

The aggressive, often violent, harassing, discriminatory, and intimidating tactics of ICE agents, particularly in and around our schools, have created a culture of fear and uncertainty: Families are afraid to send their children to school; children are at best unable to concentrate on learning, and, more likely, intimidated and frightened; and schools are disrupted, and teachers and staff are fearful for their students and their own safety. There is an incalculable negative impact on our democracy from these agents who are not held to account for their actions, on the education and well being of our families especially our children, and on our schools and their teachers, staff, and community partners.

HB 4079 provides a framework for developing protocols for communicating information about the presence of ICE on school grounds. *The legislature should do everything possible to hold these ICE agents accountable and alleviate the fear and uncertainty they are creating with their tactics.* HB 4079 is a tool schools can use to that end.

On behalf of the Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network - COIN, I urge the Committee to support and vote yes on HB 4079.

Laura Allen

On behalf of Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network - COIN