

Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

I urge you to support HB 4138. At this time of great peril for our democracy, the sight of masked, unidentified, and heavily-armed federal agents acting with impunity as they roam our nation's streets, feels and looks like a form of authoritarian terror.

I support HB 4138 for the following reasons:

1. Increased Transparency and Accountability

- Requiring law enforcement officers to visibly display identification promotes transparency and accountability during interactions with the public.
- Prohibiting facial coverings ensures that officers are identifiable, fostering trust and reducing concerns about anonymity in law enforcement actions.

2. Protection of Civil Rights

- The bill explicitly prohibits public employees from assisting federal or out-of-state law enforcement in operations that violate constitutional rights, target protected classes, or involve unlawful surveillance.
- It ensures that public bodies and law enforcement agencies comply with Oregon laws and constitutional protections.

3. Public Oversight

- The bill empowers the public, oversight bodies, and local authorities to challenge non-compliant policies and seek legal remedies, ensuring that law enforcement agencies adhere to the law.

4. Clear Guidelines for Joint Operations

- By regulating joint task forces and cross-deputization agreements, the bill ensures that Oregon law enforcement agencies do not participate in unconstitutional or discriminatory practices.
- It prevents Oregon law enforcement from being involved in operations that violate state or federal laws, such as racial profiling or unlawful surveillance.

5. Legal Recourse for Violations

- The bill allows individuals harmed by violations to seek civil damages and injunctions, providing a mechanism for accountability and justice.

These are all essential elements in the growing resistance movement against a federal government and its agents who act as though laws do not apply to them. HB 4138 is a necessary part of that resistance.

Please vote for HB 4138.

Sincerely,

Roscoe Caron
Eugene

