

Submitter: Tammy Carpenter
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4138
TO: House Committee on Judiciary
RE: Support HB 4138 - the "LEAVE us Alone Act" (LEAVA)

Chair Kropf, Vice Chairs Chotzen and Wallan and members of the committee,

My name is Tammy Carpenter and I serve on the Beaverton School Board. I am writing to you today on my own behalf to strongly encourage you to vote YES on Representative Chaichi's landmark Law Enforcement Accountability and Visibility Act.

I don't know if you all have ever seen an ICE agent in person? It is terrifying. Military-like personnel, with weapons, helmets, bullet-proof vests, and a mask covering their face. Folks this isn't a war zone. It is Minneapolis, it is Chicago, it is Gresham, it is Beaverton, it is Oregon. We don't need a militarized force in Oregon.

And we ESPECIALLY don't need these militarized officers coming into our neighborhoods and terrorizing, abusing, kidnapping, and even killing people. This may seem obvious but it bears repeating - federal militarized officers are on our streets, targeting us. It is really shocking to see our tax dollars being used this way.

HB 4138, LEAVA, requires ALL law enforcement officers operating in Oregon to visibly identify themselves, who they work for, and to unmask. When law enforcement agents are masked and have no visible identification, it makes it difficult for the public to know who is in our neighborhoods, what they are doing, and whether their actions are lawful.

The bill also mandates that local law enforcement agencies publicly release their joint federal task force or cross-deputization agreements within 120 days. If there is reason to believe that these task force operations discriminate against individuals for their right to free speech and association, their membership in a lawfully-protected class, or their immigration status, those task force agreements will be deemed illegal.

Our frontline communities and advocates are asking for the entire Immigrant Justice Package, and Representative Chaichi's bill is a central piece to it. I urge a YES vote on HB 4138.

Sincerely,

Tammy Carpenter
Beaverton School Board Director