

Good afternoon, Chair Kropf, Vice Chairs Chotzen and Wallen, and members of the committee.

My name is Representative Lesly Muñoz. I represent House District 22—home to the largest Latino and immigrant community in the state of Oregon. And I am here today to urge you to support House Bill 4114, the Protect Your Door Act.

Let me be clear about what this bill does: it holds people accountable when they violate your constitutional rights in your own home.

For the families I represent—immigrant families, working families, families who speak Spanish at the dinner table and worry when they hear a knock at the door—home means everything. It's where we raise our kids. It's where we keep our culture alive. It's where we should feel safe, no matter how much money we make, what language we speak, or what our immigration status is.

When the government crosses that threshold unlawfully—when someone barges into your home without a warrant, without your permission, without any emergency—the harm isn't some abstract legal concept. It's real. It's traumatic. It's a violation that families carry with them.

And right now, people are getting away with it.

This bill says: not in Oregon. Not anymore.

Now, some people will tell you this bill is radical or that it conflicts with federal law. Let me tell you why that's wrong.

The United States Supreme Court has said—over and over again, for more than 200 years—that federal officers are not above the law. As far back as 1804, the Court made it clear that federal employees can be held personally accountable when they act unlawfully.

In case after case—Johnson v. Maryland, Colorado v. Symes, Wheeldin v. Wheeler—the Court has affirmed that federal employment doesn't give you immunity from state law. When federal officers abuse their power, state law can hold them accountable.

Even when the Court created a federal remedy in the famous Bivens case, it didn't eliminate state remedies—it added to them.

And Congress? Congress explicitly carved out constitutional violations when it limited lawsuits against federal employees. Federal law—28 U.S.C. Section 2679—makes it crystal clear: the exclusivity provision does not apply to civil actions for violations of the Constitution.

That's not my interpretation. That's what the law says. That's what the bill's sponsor said when Congress passed it.

So House Bill 4114 doesn't break new ground. It doesn't conflict with federal law. It doesn't stop legitimate law enforcement.

What it does is restore accountability.

It says that if you violate someone's Fourth Amendment rights—if you enter their home without a warrant, without consent, without an actual emergency—there will be consequences. You can be held personally liable. In Oregon, we will not look the other way.

For working families, for immigrant families, for mixed-status families living in fear right now—the home is the last place where they should feel protected. When that protection is violated, there has to be a remedy that actually means something.

This bill is about the rule of law. It's about respecting the Constitution. And it's about a principle that's been true since the founding of this country: no one—not federal agents, not law enforcement, not anyone—is above the Constitution.

My community needs this protection. Families across Oregon need this protection. And I am asking you to stand with them.

Please support House Bill 4114.

Thank you.