



A STRONG VOICE FOR OREGON'S WORKERS

February 23, 2025

Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

The Oregon AFL-CIO represents over 300,000 workers across the state in every sector of Oregon's economy and is a voice for all workers in the legislative process. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of HB 4111 to work to curb discrimination against immigrants in the workplace, in the court and on the streets.

It should go without saying that Oregon immigrants are also Oregon workers. In fact, 1 in 8 workers in Oregon is an immigrant¹ -- many of whom worked around-the-clock during COVID-19 to keep food on our tables, to care for our loved ones, and to keep our economy running. Without immigrants, Oregon's economy simply would not work and their families fundamentally make our communities more vibrant.

Despite this, immigrant Oregonians have been targeted by violent ICE sweeps resulting in community-wide fear and devastating family separations. Recent reports shows that federal immigration agents have begun claiming they can enter private homes without a judge-signed warrant — relying instead on internal “administrative warrants” to arrest someone with a final removal order. This sharply contradicts longstanding Constitutional protections against unreasonable searches and seizures.

HB 4114 strengthens our constitutional right to be secure in our own home by making it so that anyone who enters our home without a valid warrant signed by a judge or with our consents can be personally sued for damages. In doing so, the bill would help restore trust and safety in immigrant communities. HB 4114 should signal that constitutional rights apply to everyone equally, including immigrants and mixed-status families and that unlawful intrusions will have consequences.

This policy is part of the immigrant justice package and fundamentally about living our values as a state where no one should have to live in fear simply because of the color of their skin, where they were born, or what language they speak. However, we know that for far too many Oregonians, that constant fear is the reality of the moment we are living in and having negative consequences on people's day-to-day lives.

And that's why we're asking Legislators to use every tool in your toolbox to quell that fear as much as possible: HB 4114 brings one tangible solution to move the dial to address parts of this culture of fear in Oregon.

¹ <https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/research/immigrants-oregon>