

Submitter: Lucy Morgan  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4138

My name is Lucy Morgan, and I am a Sophomore at St. Mary's Academy and a NE Portland resident. I strongly urge you to support House Bill 4138, the Law Enforcement Accountability and Visibility Act (LEAVA Bill). Time is of essence as Trump's ICE agents lack accountability and transparency by hiding behind masks. By prohibiting officers from wearing face coverings and requiring they identify themselves (name, agency, and badge number)[1], Oregon is one step closer to demanding transparency and accountability of officers, including ICE. Stephen Downing, a retired deputy of the LAPD, beautifully articulated the trouble with officers concealing their identities, "The line between a lawful arrest and an abduction is thinner than most people realize. What separates them is the ability of the public to identify who is acting under color of law. When that ability is removed, trust collapses and fear takes its place...When officers hide their faces, they hide their responsibility. They erode public trust. They chill constitutional rights. And they create the very conditions in which abuse thrives." [2] The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's mission statement reads "With honor and integrity, we will safeguard the American people, our homeland, and our values." [3] The indiscriminate detainment, and even murder, both of immigrants (Geraldo Lunas Campos, Parady La) and US citizens (Renee Good, Alex Pretti), is not a display of honor, integrity, or American values. Furthermore, wearing masks and lacking identification shields the officers and agency from accountability.

As a child, America was pushed on me as "the land of the free and the home of the brave." However, as I have grown up, I have seen incredible and disheartening injustices too often, under the guise of "public safety." How is it the land of the free when many of our people do not feel liberated? Bravery! How is it brave for an officer to hide behind their mask, refusing to identify themselves?

Oregon must mandate that all officers remain unmasked and identifiable to protect Oregonians. I expect HB 4138 to take effect immediately to ensure that no Oregonians are subjected to unidentified and unaccountable officers.

Sincerely,

Lucy Morgan

Student & Portland Resident

[1] Fedor Zarkhin, "Oregon Bills Would Bar Ice Agents from Wearing Masks, Require Identification," The Oregonian/OregonLive, February 12, 2026, <https://www.oregonlive.com/portland/2026/02/oregon-bills-would-bar-ice-agents-from-wearing-masks-require-identification.html>.

[2] Stephen Downing, "Contributor: Authorities Devalue the Law When They Hide behind Masks," Los Angeles Times, October 14, 2025, <https://www.latimes.com/opinion/story/2025-10-14/california-law-enforcement-masks>.

[3] Dept. Homeland Security, Core Values, February 17, 2026, <https://www.dhs.gov/core-values>.