

Members of the Committee,

My name is Kaitlyn Almond. I am from Portland, Oregon, and I am a Master of Social Work student. I am writing in support of HB 4138.

HB 4138 is a community protection bill. When federal officers, including ICE, conduct enforcement actions while masked or without clear identification, it creates confusion and fear that extends beyond a single encounter. People often do not know who is exercising authority or what legal power they hold. That uncertainty increases the risk of escalation and makes it harder for individuals to understand and exercise their rights.

For immigrant communities, enforcement already carries deep trauma. When officers are not clearly identifiable, families may not know where a loved one has been taken or how to contact legal support. This lack of transparency directly impacts due process and weakens trust in public institutions.

In my lived and professional experience, I have seen families impacted by immigration enforcement. I have seen children return home from school to find a parent gone with no clear information about what happened. When a primary income earner is detained, families can lose housing and stability quickly. The effects ripple into schools, workplaces, and neighborhoods.

HB 4138 sets a basic expectation that anyone exercising law enforcement authority in Oregon, whether state, local, or federal, should be clearly identifiable. This bill does not eliminate enforcement authority. It strengthens transparency, civil rights protections, and public trust.

I respectfully urge you to support HB 4138.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kaitlyn Almond