



**Submitted to the House Committee on Rules  
February 26, 2025**

**Testimony in Support of SB 1594**

**By: Shannon Wight, Deputy Director, Partnership for Safety and Justice**

Chair Bowman, Vice-Chairs Elmer and Pham, and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 1594. For the record, my name is Shannon Wight, and I am the Deputy Director at Partnership for Safety and Justice (PSJ). PSJ advocates for public safety policies that ensure accountability, equity, and healing for people convicted of crime, crime survivors, and the families and communities of both. For over 25 years, our work has promoted community and public safety with policies that keep families together, reduce racial disparities, and invest across Oregon.

PSJ historically advocates for policies that keep families together and communities strong. It's why we've also worked on issues like the Family Sentencing Alternative Program, which keeps children with their parents in times of need. Right now, federal immigration enforcement is ripping this fabric apart. Families are being left hopeless, and children are unsure of what comes next.

When Oregon passed the Sanctuary Promise Act (SPA) in 2021 to expand our state's protections for immigrants and refugees, our organization strongly supported the bill because it aligns with these same values. As the federal government continues to tear Oregon families apart and leave communities terrified of what comes next, the protections offered by this law are more important than ever.

To help ensure consistency across state entities, the Legislature created the Office of Immigrant and Refugee Advancement (OIRA) within the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS). SB 1594 would allow this agency to coordinate with the DOJ for data collection and sharing practices among state public bodies, and ensure consistency in the handling of sensitive information.

This bill is an important piece of the 2026 Immigrant Justice Package (IJP), and PSJ is proud to support it.

We urge the Legislature to pass this bill, and thank you for your consideration.