



*From the Offices of Representatives Grayber, Ruiz, and Senator Campos*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **New Protections Aim to Keep Hospitals Focused on Care, Not Immigration Enforcement**

**SALEM, Ore.** – Legislation designed to ensure Oregonians can seek medical care without fear of immigration enforcement passed the Oregon House today after previously clearing the Senate, sending [SB 1570](#) to the governor’s desk for signature.

The bill establishes clear boundaries around when hospitals may share personal information, particularly information related to immigration or citizenship status. It also requires hospitals to identify nonpublic areas and creates protections for health care workers who provide patients with information about their legal rights.

"When fear keeps people from care, public health suffers. When trust erodes, we all pay the price," said **Sen. Campos** (D-Hillsboro, Aloha & West Beaverton). "The Healthcare Without Fear Act protects safety, privacy, and trust for everyone seeking medical care."

The bill responds to growing anxiety among immigrant families and health care providers as immigration enforcement actions intensify nationwide. SB 1570 prohibits hospitals from sharing sensitive information like a person’s country of birth or immigration status with law enforcement unless required by law, a court order, or necessary to ensure continuity of care. The bill also requires hospitals and federally qualified health centers to treat immigration-related information the same way they treat protected health information.

"As a first responder, I know that hospitals and emergency rooms are carefully coordinated environments where roles are clear, every second matters, and trust is essential. When immigration enforcement disrupts that environment, people get hurt," said **Rep. Dacia Grayber** (D - SW Portland & E Beaverton). "This bill protects patient privacy and limits access to sensitive areas, ensuring that patient care is never compromised by enforcement activity."

In addition, the legislation makes it unlawful for health care employers to retaliate against workers who share state-approved materials about immigration rights or legal services. The protections are intended to preserve trust between patients and providers, trust essential to public health.

“Every Oregonian deserves to walk into a hospital focused on healing, not fear,” said **Rep. Ruiz** (D - Gresham). “When families are afraid to seek medical care because they worry about immigration enforcement, it does not just harm those families, it weakens public health for all of us.”

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