



PRESS RELEASE

OREGON HOUSE DEMOCRATS

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Oregon House Democrats Condemn ICE Subversion of Sanctuary Laws, Recent Arrests of Oregonians

House Democrats stand with immigrant communities, offer resources for support

SALEM, Ore. – Recent reports show a troubling trend in Immigration and Customs Enforcement’s (ICE) involvement in Oregon, especially in Washington County. This is despite the state’s longstanding Sanctuary State law, which was re-affirmed by the voters by a 27-point margin in 2018.

Rep. Teresa Alonso Leon (D-Woodburn) said the moves by ICE were meant to scare and intimidate communities.

“Just last week, a father dropped his kids off to catch the school bus and was apprehended by ICE,” Rep. Alonso Leon said. “We refuse to allow our community to continue living with this crippling fear and anxiety— we will continue to uphold our values of self-determination and resilience despite these intimidating threats and constant attacks by ICE. Oregon House Democrats will do everything in our power to push back against the Trump Administration’s politically motivated and inhumane practices in our state.”

Rep. Diego Hernandez represents parts of East Portland.

“This move is a clear attempt to intimidate our communities and bully Oregon as a Sanctuary State,” Rep. Hernandez said. “ICE and the Trump Administration are trying to sow confusion and fear among our immigrant communities. and we must push back against their misinformation campaign. Here in Oregon, we believe in building an inclusive and welcoming state for everyone. Like classrooms, and school grounds – bus stops should be safe, inclusive, and welcoming for all students, families, staff, and community members. What happened last week threatens that sense of safety within our public schools. We must continue to stand strong with our sanctuary laws and ensure compliance in every corner of the state.”

ICE sent two subpoenas to the Washington County Sheriff's Office last week demanding information on two individuals. Civil rights and immigration attorneys have raised serious concerns that these subpoenas are self-issued by ICE and not reviewed by a judge.

The entire House Democratic Caucus joined Rep. Alonso Leon and Rep. Hernandez with the call to support to Oregon's immigrant communities and condemn ICE raids.

“We as House Democrats stand strong in our commitment to our values of equity and inclusion. We are proud of Oregon's status as a sanctuary state, and it is something that we have fought to protect through legislation and at the ballot box over the years. We need to ensure local resources are protected and not diverted for an inhumane political agenda. This is not the Oregon Way.

“The Oregon House Democrats stand in solidarity with our immigrant neighbors. We must ensure all Oregonians are treated fairly, regardless of where they were born. We are committed to protecting our values as an inclusive state.”

To report ICE activity within local communities, call 1-(844) 363-1423 to reach the National Immigration Project. Several non-profits offer important resources on how to respond to interactions with ICE. They are below:

- [Know Your Rights with ICE](#) (IDP)
- [What To Do If Immigration Agents Are At Your Door](#) (ACLU)
- [Find a Navigator Near You](#) (Equity Corps of Oregon)
- [Oregon Immigration Resource](#) (OIR)

Further, Oregon House Democrats want to acknowledge the community's concerns on “Public Charge” and an individual's ability to seek medical help. In the wake of these repeated attacks on undocumented communities, the Oregon House Democrats encourage individuals to seek medical help when they need it. For more information, visit the [Oregon Health Authority's website on COVID-19](#) and the [Oregon Health Authority's page on “Public Charge”](#), where individuals can find information in multiple languages. Additionally, [Causa Oregon's website has addition multilingual information](#).

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