



**OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

June 12th, 2025

Timothy G. Sekerak  
Chief Clerk of the House  
State Capitol Building  
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Vote Explanation on SB 1121 B

Dear Chief Clerk Sekerak,

SB 1121 B, which creates a new crime related to the disclosure of private information, seeks to address the harmful act of doxing. The dangers of doxing are real, and the harm associated with doxing can be significant and deserves to be taken seriously. I appreciate the amendments that were made to this bill to clarify the elements of this new crime. The elements include both specific intent (to stalk, injure, or cause property damage) and that the ultimate harm (stalking, injury, or property damage) actually occur as a result of the disclosure. When all of these elements can be proven, there is no doubt in my mind that the underlying conduct creates a harm (both to the specific victim and to our society at large) that is equal to if not greater than similarly classified misdemeanors. For these reasons, during the committee vote, I supported moving the bill to the floor with a “Do Pass” recommendation.

I made the challenging decision to ultimately vote “no” on the floor, however, when considering the larger context of our consistently expanding criminal code and criminal legal system. This legislative session, the legislature has created a number of new crimes and has expanded the scope or breadth of pre-existing crimes. Meanwhile, it is rare for the legislature to remove or narrow the scope of existing crimes. The result: a criminal system that tends to get more expansive with every legislative session.

Given this larger context, not every harm should be addressed with its own new place in the criminal code. Before creating a new crime, I believe the legislature should ask a series of questions including how often the harm is occurring, whether there are existing crimes that would cover the harmful conduct, and whether there are other tools in place to prevent the harm and to hold wrongdoers accountable.

In the case of doxing, the legislature created a civil cause of action through HB 3047 in 2021. During the public hearings on SB 1121 and through my additional research, I did not hear compelling evidence about the frequency that the civil remedy has been used, that the civil remedy has been insufficient to prevent and deter doxing, or why the criminal system would be more effective at achieving these goals. If SB 1121 B becomes law, I will be interested in tracking the use of both the civil and criminal remedies going forward, and it will be my sincere hope that we see a reduction in doxing incidents in our state. However, with the civil remedy so new and in the absence of this additional information, I felt it is best that we pause before creating this additional new crime.



**WILLY CHOTZEN**  
**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**  
HOUSE DISTRICT 46



**OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to explain my vote on SB 1121 B.

Sincerely,

Representative Willy Chotzen, House District 46 — Southeast Portland

