



## SENATE MAJORITY OFFICE

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**Contact:** Elizabeth Cronen, [elizabeth.cronen@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:elizabeth.cronen@oregonlegislature.gov)

### **Oregon Democrats Act to Keep Schools Safe for All**

*House Bill 4079 sets standards for notifying school communities of immigration agents' activities*

**SALEM, OR** – Oregon school districts and public colleges and universities will be better prepared to respond to immigration agents on campus under legislation that passed the state Senate today. House Bill 4079 requires schools and districts to notify families, students, and staff when immigration enforcement agents are confirmed on school grounds. The bill allows for the use of existing alert systems and ensures families receive timely, accurate information from a trusted source.

“This bill is about clarity, communication, and trust. When something serious happens at our schools, families deserve timely, accurate information,” said **Senator Courtney Neron Misslin (D – Wilsonville, Sherwood, King City & Tigard)**, a chief co-sponsor of the measure.

“Transparency reduces rumors, centers student safety, and gives families the information they need to protect their loved ones.”

Between 2011 and 2025, the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency maintained a policy preventing enforcement activities at “sensitive locations,” like schools, hospitals, and places of worship. The Trump administration revoked those guidelines in January 2025 and launched immigration enforcement activities designed for maximum intimidation.

“For many students, academic worries are taking a back seat to the fear caused by immigration enforcement,” said **Rep. Sarah Finger McDonald (D – Corvallis)**. “We can lift some of that fear by providing good information so our students can show up at school ready to learn.”

Under House Bill 4079 public school districts will adopt policies for notifying students, families, employees, and community-based service providers when immigration authorities are confirmed on school property. The policy must be posted in the student handbook and in culturally appropriate languages on the district website. Public colleges and universities must adopt similar policies for notifying students and employees, posting the policies on the institution’s website in languages typically used to communicate with students.

A 2023 measure (House Bill 3584) requires school district boards to adopt policies for notifying families and employees when schools initiate lockdown, lockout, shelter in place, or evacuation activities in response to safety threats.

House Bill 4079 passed the Oregon Senate today in a vote of 18 to 10, after earlier passage in the Oregon House of Representatives. The measure now goes to Governor Tina Kotek for her signature.

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