



OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

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Senate Democrats Urge Congress to Enact Oregon's Model of Fairness

SALEM – Senate Joint Memorial 1 passed in the Oregon State Senate today. The measure asks Congress to ensure certain locations considered “sensitive” are not utilized by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) for enforcement of immigration status. The measure passed on a 17-10 vote.

“Children should not be exposed to the trauma of seeing their parents seized and taken away in front of their friends and fellow students,” said Senator Michael Dembrow (D-NE Portland) who carried SJM 1.

When ICE officers choose to use “sensitive” areas for enforcement purposes, they take advantage of spaces all Oregonians have a right to access regardless of their documentation status – a practice Oregon has already taken action to limit. SJM 1 encourages Congress to enact a similar policy in the interest of fairness and opportunity.

“All parents want the very best for their kids. All deserve the right to worship. To exclude members of our community from those spaces is wrong, and it’s not what the United States, or Oregon, stands for,” Senator Dembrow added.

“ICE is supposed to act in the interest of the United States, a land which claims to be the country of opportunity. Taking parents away from children in places of education and worship is an affront to basic values our country holds dear, and that practice should end,” said Senator Dembrow.

After passing on a party line vote, SJM 1 now moves to the House of Representatives for consideration.

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