



OIRA 2026 Legislative Session Report

Executive Summary

The Office of Immigrant and Refugee Advancement (OIRA) was created by [SB 778](#) in 2021 to develop a statewide immigration integration strategy. This statutory charge ensures immigrant and refugee communities are considered in the development of state policies and program design. Since January 2025, federal immigration activity in Oregon has intensified with more than 1,300 arrests documented statewide. Alongside the rise in federal immigration activities, concurrent federal changes also limit immigrants' ability to legally work and create confusion about accessing basic supports like healthcare and food benefits.

Increased federal activity has reshaped daily life for people throughout Oregon. Across OIRA's engagement with more than 40 community partners, a consistent theme emerged: increased enforcement activity is contributing to heightened concerns among families, influencing decisions about school attendance, workforce participation, and access to healthcare. As some residents withdraw from the workforce, families may experience increased housing and food instability. At the frontline are community organizations, schools, and service providers who absorb crisis response with fewer resources and limited guidance. Statewide standards for how public bodies respond when federal immigration authorities appear at schools, clinics, or other public sites have historically varied across agencies, creating uncertainty for staff and communities.

OIRA's role is to support alignment across agencies and elevate what communities and frontline systems are experiencing so Oregon's response remains lawful and consistent. OIRA is charged with leading the Interagency Council for Immigrant and Refugee Coordination established by Governor Tina Kotek through [Executive Order 26-04](#). The purpose of this Council is to ensure state agencies are aligned, responsive, and consistent in implementing Oregon law during periods of increased federal immigration enforcement.

During the 2026 Short Session, OIRA tracked 19 measures relating to immigration and other issues affecting immigrant and refugee communities, including education, housing stability, food security, immigration legal services, and data protection. The legislature passed 13 of these measures, including three that directly expands OIRA’s statutory responsibilities. The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Bill ([SB 5204](#)) allocated an additional \$10 million to support immigration legal services and related assistance for certain immigrants and refugees. All other immigration-related measures were fiscally neutral.

About the Office of Immigrant and Refugee Advancement

Established by [SB 778](#) in 2021, the Office of Immigrant and Refugee Advancement (OIRA) is charged with the development of a statewide immigration integration plan. The Office coordinates across community, policy, and systems partners. OIRA also monitors policies and laws and engages community partners to inform program and policy design. Oregon is home to approximately 400,000 immigrants. This number includes approximately 200,000 noncitizens who face barriers to accessing benefits eligibility, work authorization and health coverage.

Today, OIRA’s portfolio goes beyond integration to focus on how to make systems responsive to the needs of immigrant and refugee communities in Oregon. OIRA supports integration efforts while also helping state systems strengthen engagement and service delivery through policy and program design.

OIRA also works with agencies to strengthen coordination, align priorities, and ensures programs are informed by community experience and operational considerations. OIRA has strong relationships with community partners and immigrant leaders, shares community feedback, and translates trends into actionable guidance that helps systems respond with clarity. In a period of shifting policy and increased federal immigration activity, clear coordination is essential. OIRA’s role is to provide accurate information to state leaders, support alignment across agencies, and raise what communities and frontline systems are experiencing so Oregon’s response remains lawful and consistent.

This work includes leading the Interagency Council for Immigrant and Refugee Coordination (ICIRC), established by Governor Kotek through [Executive Order 26-04](#). ICIRC is composed of key state agencies, including education, health, housing and transportation. The Council

inventories agency protocols related to reports of federal immigration activities and identify opportunities to strengthen coordination and response.

Bills Directly Impacting OIRA

SB 1538 – Protecting Students from Immigration-Based Discrimination

Policy Area: Education

The measure codifies Plyler v. Doe into Oregon state law by expanding educational anti-discrimination law to include citizenship and immigration status as a protected category. It directs the Oregon Department of Justice (DOJ), in consultation with OIRA and education professionals, to develop model guidance policies for public schools to respond to federal immigration authorities.

Status: **Passed**

Budget Allocation: None

OIRA Impacts: The policy names OIRA as a consultation partner to the Oregon Attorney General in the development of model policies for public schools. It also amends OIRA's founding statute (ORS 185.650) to confirm OIRA's authority to carry out this work. To implement this new policy, OIRA will need to coordinate with Oregon DOJ, education professionals, Oregon Department of Education, and community partners working directly with immigrant and refugee families to ensure model policies reflect documented community and implementation considerations. There are no new reporting requirements for OIRA. This additional work will modestly increase OIRA's coordination responsibilities.

SB 1594 – Community Voice and Model Policy Development

Policy Area: Public Safety

The measure requires Oregon DOJ to consult with OIRA when the department is developing, reviewing, or updating model policies intended to limit immigration enforcement at public facilities.

Status: **Passed**

Budget Allocation: None

OIRA Impact: The policy names OIRA as a consultation partner to the Oregon Attorney General in the development of model policies to comply with Oregon Sanctuary Promise

Laws. To implement SB 1594, OIRA will work with the Oregon DOJ, other state agencies, and community partners to support development of model policies that align with Sanctuary Promise Laws and incorporate community and operational feedback. There are no new reporting requirements for OIRA. This additional work will slightly increase OIRA's workload but can be managed with existing staff and resources.

SB 1595 – Culturally Responsive Trainings for Professional Licensing Boards

Policy Area: Workforce Development

[SB 476 \(2025\)](#) requires professional licensing boards in the state publish specific guidance around licensure and make sure certain staff receive culturally responsive training approved by OIRA. This measure extends the operational deadline for SB 476 (2025) to January 1, 2028.

Status: **Passed**

Budget Allocation: None

OIRA Impact: To carry out [SB 476 \(2025\)](#), OIRA will review criteria, and approve culturally responsive training for more than 50 state licensing boards. It also will work with boards, the Oregon Department of Administrative Services, and other partners to ensure consistency and compliance, as well as engage immigrant and refugee communities, internationally trained professionals, and culturally specific organizations so trainings reflect lived experience. This represents new implementation responsibilities that cannot be absorbed within current staffing levels. OIRA anticipates the need for one additional position to carry out this work effectively.

Immigration-Related Bills by Policy Area

Education

HB 4079 – Safeguarding Students and Families

This policy directs Oregon school district boards and governing bodies of institutions of higher education to adopt policies to address how the school district or higher education institution will respond when a federal immigration authority enters a school property or campus. Adopted notification policies must specify an administrator who will confirm whether federal immigration authorities have entered and provide notice to certain individuals.

Notices must include general location of federal immigration authority and information about whether school operations have been affected.

Status: **Passed**

Budget Allocation: None

OIRA Impacts: None

SB 1538 – Protecting Students from Immigration-Based Discrimination

This measure codifies Plyler v. Doe into Oregon statute by adding citizenship and immigration status to protected categories under state education anti-discrimination law. It directs Oregon DOJ, in consultation with OIRA and education partners, to develop model policies for public schools responding to immigration enforcement.

Status: **Passed**

Budget Allocation: None

OIRA Impacts: See detailed summary in “Bills Directly Impacting OIRA.”

HB 4154 – Regular Attendance Act

This measure requires the compilation and public reporting of student attendance rates, including data on chronic absenteeism. It directs Oregon Department of Education use existing average daily membership reports to share public quarterly attendance data beginning in the 2026-2027 school year. OIRA monitored this measure in light of community-reported concerns regarding school attendance during periods of increased federal immigration enforcement activity.

Status: **Passed**

Budget Allocation: None

OIRA Impacts: None

SB 1581 – School Meals for All

This measure would have required school districts to offer lunch and breakfast to students at no charge regardless of income by mandating a school or district to apply for special provisions under the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program, if eligibility requirements were met. OIRA monitored this measure due to its relevance to access to school-based benefits for immigrant and refugee families

and community-reported concerns regarding rising food security during periods of increased federal immigration enforcement activity.

Status: **Failed**

Budget Allocation: Not Applicable

OIRA Impacts: None

Workplace

HB 4111 – Anti-Discrimination Protections

This measure provides that a person’s immigration status generally may not be introduced as evidence in a civil proceeding unless directly relevant to the claims at issue. The measure also clarifies employers may not discipline or take negative action against an employee solely for updating personal information following the receipt of a federal work authorization.

Status: **Passed**

Budget Allocation: None

OIRA Impacts: None

SB 1595 – Culturally Responsive Trainings for Professional Licensing Boards

SB 476 (2025) requires all professional licensing boards in the state publish specific guidance regarding licensure and ensure certain staff receive culturally responsive training approved by OIRA. This new policy delays the operational deadline for SB 476 (2025) to January 1, 2028.

Status: **Passed**

Budget Allocation: None

OIRA Impacts: See details in the “Bills Impacting OIRA”.

Data Privacy

HB 4123 – Landlord Confidentiality Act

This measure limits the circumstances under which a landlord may disclose confidential information about a tenant, former tenant, applicant or household member. It defines “confidential information” to include specific personal, financial, employment, immigration,

medical, disability, and protected-class information, as well as records related to the assertion of certain tenant rights and protections under state and federal law.

Status: **Passed**

Budget allocation: None

OIRA Impacts: None

SB 1587 – Protecting Our State’s Info

The measure restricts public agencies from sharing personal information with a data broker unless the data broker attests the information will not be sold or transferred for purposes of federal immigration enforcement.

Status: **Passed**

Budget Allocation: None

OIRA Impacts: None

Public Safety

HB 4091 – Oregon National Guard Mobilization

The measure would have clarified the circumstances when the Adjutant General may mobilize the Oregon National Guard if its service members are called into Title 10 or Title 32 service by the US President or into service by the Oregon Governor, respectively. It would have established limitations on mobilizations for the purposes related to law enforcement or immigration enforcement. The measure would have also limited when another state’s National Guard can enter Oregon.

Status: **Failed**

Budget Allocation: Not Applicable

OIRA Impacts: None

HB 4114 – Protect Your Door Act

The measure authorizes an owner, occupant, or other lawful person on the property to bring a civil action against an individual who enters the property without a judicial warrant while claiming legal authority. If successful, the plaintiff may recover economic damages, other compensatory damages, and additional relief as determined by the court.

Status: **Passed**

Budget Allocation: None

OIRA Impacts: None

HB 4138 – Law Enforcement Accountability and Visibility Act (LEAVA)

The measure requires law enforcement officers, including federal, out-of-state, and Oregon officers, to display identifying information while on duty. It limits circumstances under which on-duty officers may cover their faces and restricts certain face coverings, subject to specified exceptions. The policy also allows people to take legal action against a law enforcement agency to stop violations of these identification or masking rules.

Status: **Passed**

Budget Allocation: None

OIRA Impacts: None

SB 1594 – Community Voice and Model Policy Development

This policy requires the Oregon Department of Justice to consult with the OIRA when the department develops, reviews or updates model policies intended to limit federal immigration activities at public facilities.

Status: **Passed**

Budget Allocation: None

OIRA Impact: See “Bills Impacting OIRA” for impact.

SJR 203 – No Secret Police

This measure proposed a constitutional amendment establishing a right to be free from enforcement by secret police, such as unidentified law enforcement officers.

Status: **Failed**

Budget Allocation: Not Applicable

OIRA Impacts: None

Housing

HB 4149 – McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

The measure codifies the federal McKinney-Vento Act into Oregon state law by directing school districts to adopt policies providing for the immediate enrollment, school placement and provision of services to homeless students.

Status: **Passed**

Budget Allocation: None

OIRA Impacts: None

Health Access

SB 1570 – Healthcare Without Fear Act

This measure requires hospitals to adopt policies and procedures outlining how the hospital will respond if law enforcement authorities arrive at the hospital. Hospitals must also designate which areas of the hospital are not open to the public. The measure prohibits hospitals and federally qualified health centers from retaliating against staff who provide patients with state-published information regarding constitutional rights or legal services. It further requires health care providers within hospitals to treat information regarding citizenship or immigration status as protected health information under state law.

Status: **Passed**

Budget Allocation: None

OIRA Impacts: None

Other

HB 4118 – Study of Support Services

The measure would have required the Oregon Department of Human Services provide replacement Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Plan (SNAP) benefits if a recipient's benefits are stolen through electronic theft. It also would have required a report to the Legislative Assembly about underutilization of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. It would have required the Oregon Health Authority report to the Legislative Assembly about underutilization of the Women Infant and Children (WIC) Program. It also would have required the Hunger Task Force to study food wasted by grocery stores, farms, and schools.

Status: **Failed**

Budget Allocation: N/A

OIRA Impacts: None

HB 4143 – Recourse Act

The measure would have authorized the Governor, with approval of the Oregon Attorney General and Oregon State Treasurer, to direct a state agency to withhold payments from the federal government if the federal government is withholding funds from Oregon in violation of a valid court order. It would have established the Federal Moneys Holding Account, where those withheld payments would be held pending resolution.

Status: **Failed**

Budget Allocation: Not Applicable

OIRA Impacts: None

HB 4150 – Public Contracts Prohibition

The measure would have directed state agencies to require prospective contractors, subcontractors, and grant recipients to certify they will not transport individuals detained by federal agencies for the purpose of deportation, except in accordance with judicial orders.

Status: **Failed**

Budget Allocation: Not Applicable

OIRA Impacts: None

SB 5204 – Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Bill

This measure modifies state agencies' 2025-27 legislatively approved budgets and adjusts General Fund appropriations made to the Emergency Board.

Status: **Passed**

Budget Allocation: \$10 Million

- \$8 million General Fund for Universal Representation Fund, including:
 - \$5.6 million of funding provided to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services for deposit into the Universal Representation Fund
 - \$2.4 million provided to the Oregon State Bar for immigration legal services

- \$2 million General Fund is provided to the Oregon Department of Human Services to make one-time grants to refugee resettlement agencies and culturally specific community-based organizations to provide financial assistance, case management, outreach, and navigation to lawfully present immigrants and refugees affected by changes to federal SNAP and Medicaid eligibility.

OIRA Impacts: None

Fiscal Overview

Through the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Bill, the Oregon Legislature appropriated a total of \$10 million to support programs serving immigrant and refugee residents. All other immigration-related measures passed were fiscally neutral.

OIRA did not receive direct appropriations through this legislation. Implementation of SB 1538 (Protecting Students from Immigration-Based Discrimination) and SB 1594 (Community Voice and Model Policy Development) can be achieved through OIRA's existing staff and resources. However, they represent a cumulative expansion of OIRA's coordination responsibilities. The implementation of SB 1595 (Culturally Responsive Trainings for Professional Licensing Boards) establishes new implementation duties and cannot be accomplished through existing staffing levels; OIRA will require one position carry out this work.

Looking Ahead

As these measures move to implementation, OIRA will carry out its responsibilities under state law in coordination with partner agencies. For the implementation of SB 1538, OIRA will work with Oregon DOJ, education professionals, Oregon Department of Education, and community partners who work directly with immigrant and refugee families. The goal is to ensure model policies reflect the real experiences of immigrant communities.

Implementation of SB 1594 will require OIRA to coordinate with the Oregon DOJ, other state agencies, and community partners to update model policies, so they reflect the lived experiences of immigrant residents while still meeting legal requirements.

Implementation of SB 1595 establishes new responsibilities for OIRA related to the review and approval of culturally responsive training for professional licensing boards. This new work will

require additional staffing to ensure an effective rollout that matches the intent of the legislation.

In addition, OIRA will continue to monitor federal immigration policy developments and enforcement activity and assess reported impacts on immigrants and refugee communities. Emerging trends and implementation issues will be raised, as appropriate, through the Interagency Council on Immigrant and Refugee Coordination and other established coordination channels.