

August 20, 2018

Sheriff Byron Trapp  
125 E. 8<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Eugene, Oregon

Dear Sheriff Trapp,

As physicians and as community members, we are writing to encourage you to publicly oppose Measure 105. We are concerned that passage of this measure would adversely affect the health and well-being of the children in our state and decrease community safety.

Multiple studies have shown that Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) are associated with severe health problems such as heart disease, diabetes, severe obesity, substance use, suicide attempts, and early death. Recent studies have shown that ACES have social effects as well, including increased criminal behavior and increased violent crime.

Deportation of a parent leads to immediate ACES: loss of a parent, and often loss of a home and financial support. In the last two years, the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has arrested increasing number of people for immigration violation alone. This has included hard-working, loving, responsible parents of children in some of our clinics. As providers caring for families that have experienced deportation of a parent, the loss is almost palpable in the children's postures and expressions as we walk in the room. This is heartbreaking. As physicians caring for children, we know the importance of the relationships between parents and children, and as such, we strongly condemn these policies.

Fear of encountering ICE can also cause people not to seek medical care. Providers in community clinics have reported that Latino patients have not come to appointments or to the emergency room when they are sick because of this fear. This effect on medical care of immigrants in other areas of the country has been documented in medical journals.

Because of the adverse effects on children in this state, the Oregon Pediatric Society (the Oregon chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics) has issued a statement opposing Measure 105.

As doctors we respond to the needs of our individual patients. As a sheriff, we understand that your responsibility is to the safety of the entire community. While community safety is not our expertise, we are concerned that if Measure 105 passes, the sheriff and police would enforce immigration law independent of the effects that these laws have on the safety of the community. This could have the following consequences:

- 1) Discourage residents to report crimes, domestic abuse, or drug use because of concerns for arrest and deportation.
- 2) Obligate law enforcement to engage in racial profiling. Members of our community are already afraid of being stopped and detained, regardless of their immigration status. One of the managers in our clinic, who is descended from immigrants and who is a legal citizen, has a large

extended family in the area. Her family members always carry their identification with them, in fear of being stopped.

- 3) Drive a continued increase in racism in the community. Latino children in our clinic have reported racist bullying in schools and in the community. Passage of Measure 105 could validate these hateful viewpoints and drive an increase in ACES, threatening the safety of our community members.

Some of us had the opportunity to attend the Springfield City Council Meeting when the council members unanimously voted to terminate the Springfield Jail contract with ICE. Springfield citizens from all walks of life, young and old, Latino and white, business owners and homeowners, came together to support the termination of the contract. The Springfield police were also in the room. Everyone listened to the other speakers respectfully. There was a strong sense of community and of competence in the room. We left the meeting feeling confident in our community, that we were united in wanting to keep our community safe and healthy, and in dedicating our knowledge and skills to that goal.

This is the kind of community that supports its children and its families. This is the kind of community we believe in.

It is also why we are writing to request that you publicly oppose Measure 105. The increased presence of ICE in our community, and the cooperation of local law enforcement with ICE would cause further harm to the children of our community and impose barriers to public safety.

Sincerely,



Lauren Herbert MD

Pediatrics

Pediatric Infectious Diseases

PeaceHealth Medical Group

Springfield

Cosigners on following pages

## Cosigners to Letter to Sheriff Trapp