



ACLU of Oregon's Highest Priority Bills

Net neutrality & internet service provider privacy ([HB 4155](#))

The internet has become so much a part of our lives that it now a fundamental part of living in our society, participating in our democracy, and exercising our constitutional rights. That is why *it is crucial that we promote rights and equality on the internet and ensure that it is a free and open space for the exchange of information.*

The internet should be a place where we can always access any lawful content we want, and where the folks delivering that content can't play favorites because they disagree with the message being delivered or want to charge more money for faster delivery. *We should be able to use the internet without sacrificing our privacy rights or being forced to allow our information to be used, shared or sold without our knowledge and consent.*

Unfortunately, recent actions by the FCC, Congress, and the President Trump have eliminated the federal regulations that promoted the free and open exchange of information on the internet and would have protected our personal and private information from unauthorized use and sale. Oregon now has the chance to pass this state-level law to turn back the tide.

Prohibiting unjust waivers of rights in plea petitions and release agreements ([HB 4149](#))

Criminal defendants are often unjustly required to waive rights as a condition of the plea offers. These waivers sometimes include crucial constitutional and procedural rights, and access to rehabilitative programs. Similar waivers are sometimes found in jail release agreements.

This bill imposes reasonable limitations on the conditions that a prosecuting attorney can place on a plea offer or that can be required in a jail release agreement, including:

- The right to a preliminary hearing
- The right to a hearing on the issue of restitution
- Rights under international laws and treaties
- The right to confront witnesses and object to hearsay evidence in subsequent hearings
- The right to raise the issue of the defendant's fitness to proceed
- The right to challenge convictions with newly-discovered exculpatory evidence
- The right to challenge a sentence as unconstitutionally cruel and unusual
- The right to file a petition for post-conviction relief, or a motion for DNA testing

The bill also prohibits prosecutors from conditioning a plea offer on the defendant's waiver of eligibility for a number of programs this legislature created, including:

- Earned discharge
- Alternative incarceration programs
- Work release
- Transitional leave
- Reductions of sentences for work, skills development, or good behavior while incarcerated

Additional Bills ACLU of Oregon Supports

- Allowing counties to pay postage on ballots (bill has not yet been introduced)
- Fair calculations in civil damages ([HB 4008](#))
- Juvenile dependency reform ([HB 4009](#))
- Small donor matching for statewide elections ([HB 4076](#))
- Government transparency & ethics ([HB 4077](#))
- Cannabis special event & tasting permits ([HB 4110](#))
- Addiction, prevention, treatment and recovery planning ([HB 4137](#))
- Protecting the rights of parents with disabilities ([SB 1526](#))
- Improving mental health access for law enforcement officers ([SB 1531](#))
- Tuition equity law improvements ([SB 1563](#))

ACLU of Oregon's Defensive Priorities

ACLU of Oregon opposes bills that endanger civil liberties and civil rights, including bills that:

- Limit access to **reproductive health care**
- Impact **free speech and association** rights
- Endanger **privacy**
- Weaken protections against unreasonable **search and seizure**
- Increase **criminal penalties** or create new crimes
- Reduce **government and law enforcement accountability**
- Negatively impact communities of color or other **marginalized communities**
- Weaken **anti-discrimination** protections
- Reduce equal access to **voting**
- Weaken our **public records** laws

Questions?

Do you need our support for a bill that promotes civil liberties bill or civil rights? Do you **want us to review a bill or amendment** to evaluate civil liberties issues? Do you **want to share concerns** about a bill? If so, please contact:

Kimberly McCullough, Policy Director, kmccullough@aclu-or.org, (503) 810-6939