

# Senate Joint Memorial 4

Sponsored by Senator GORDLY

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Urges Congress to prioritize family reunification in federal immigration reform.

## JOINT MEMORIAL

To the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled:

We, your memorialists, the Seventy-fourth Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, in legislative session assembled, respectfully represent as follows:

Whereas families in Oregon are separated, or threatened by the prospect of separation, by the broken immigration laws and regulations that span the State of Oregon and the nation; and

Whereas children who are citizens of the United States are being separated from their fathers and mothers because of broken immigration laws; and

Whereas a child's separation from family members violates the right to family unity and causes children who are United States citizens great emotional and financial harm; and

Whereas mothers or fathers of citizen children are, in many cases, married to United States citizens, and the hardship experienced by these families due to the separation, or imminent separation, of their families is ultimately hardship experienced by United States citizens; and

Whereas immigration cases illuminate a wide range of legal situations and human experiences that are important and instructive to the immigration debate in Congress; and

Whereas it is the right of every United States citizen to grow up in the citizen's country of birth with family, including parents, siblings, aunts, uncles and grandparents, and this right is of utmost importance and equal to any other right granted to United States citizens; now, therefore,

### **Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:**

That we, the members of the Seventy-fourth Legislative Assembly, respectfully urge the Congress of the United States to take action on federal immigration reform that will provide for family unification as part of comprehensive immigration reform; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this memorial shall be sent to each member of the Oregon Congressional Delegation.

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.