



LatinoNetwork

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Sen. Lee Beyer
Sen. Bruce Star
Sen. Chris Edward
Sen. Fred Girod
Sen. Rod Monroe
Sen. Chuck Thomsen

Dear Senate Business and Transportation Committee:

On behalf of the Latino Network, I urge your support of the passage of SB 833, the proposed bipartisan legislation to issue short term driver license or permits to Oregon residents that are non-citizens. This measure will help ensure that all Oregonians who require transportation to work, live and take care of their basic needs are able to drive safely and legally. It has the potential to directly and positively impact more than 900 youth and parents Latino Network works with each year by eliminating fear and providing more economic stability into their lives.

In the midst of these difficult economic times, it is more critical than ever that we support our economy by removing barriers for our current and future workforce – laborers, students, business owners and others – by allowing **all** Oregon residents the ability to drive safely and support their families. The current institutional barriers in place relegate law-abiding residents to a life in the shadows, and plagued with economic instability – these are contributions that our entire state depends upon. This proposed legislation is a critical step toward eliminating these barriers.

The ability of Oregonians to drive to and from work, to purchase goods and services, and to ensure their children make it to school each day translates into an important investment in our state's economy. This bill is an opportunity to demonstrate that we value driver safety for everyone and the ability for residents to stabilize their lives. As Oregonians, we all have a shared destiny. Please do the right thing and vote to support this legislation that leads toward equity, fairness and opportunity for all.

Sincerely,

Carmen Rubio
Executive Director

Cc:

Sen. Chip Shields
Sen. Arnie Roblan
Sen. Chuck Thomsen
Sen. Bill Hansell
Sen. Jessica Vega Pederson
Sen. Chris Harker
Sen. Mark Johnson
Sen. Vic Gilliam
Andrea Cano, OCHA Chair
Gilbert Carrasco, OCHA Vice Chair