

Chair Tomai, members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify. For the record, my name is Eduardo Angulo, chairman and executive director of the Salem/Keizer Coalition for Equality. Our member organizations are PCUN, Oregon Farmworkers Union, CAUSA, the largest pro-immigrants' right coalition in the Northwest, Mano a Mano Family Center, Latinos Unidos Siempre (LUS), Willamette University Latino Students and our Oregon Parent Organizing Project.

Our Coalition's organizations leaders and members and allies are all in full support of the HB 2980/2474 because ALL children deserve an opportunity to succeed in school and life, which is tied to having a stable home.

Through the passage of the Oregon Senate Bill 253, the 2011 Legislature affirmed a clear and ambitious educational goal for the state: It's known as the Governor's 40-40-20 aspirational vision. It states that by 2025 all adult Oregonians will hold a high school diploma, 40% will have an associate's degree or its equivalent, and 40% will have earned a bachelor's or an advance degree.

The passage of the SB-253 last year has created a new drive for action and change with a lot of hope in the migrant, immigrant and communities of color throughout the state of Oregon.

The fact that many of the thousands of children who are residents of the farmworker housing developments around Oregon are English Language Learners or ELL students, and the Governor and the state education leaders are committed to address their education needs and bring them into the tent of education reform and equity, brings a renewed hope in our communities that all our children will have a chance to reach their full potential.

For the past year I have been part of a large group of leaders of community organizations of color part of the Oregon Alliance for Education Equity (OAEE) who have been working at being part of the solution to the growing achievement gap between students of color and English Language Learners and their white classmates.

I am here today to express the united support of our communities for passage of HB 2980/2474 that will extend the tax credit for farmworkers housing around Oregon.

Prior to the 2001 creation of the tax credit there was not much decent housing for the farmworker families and children around Oregon, now we have more than 1,200 housing units built since 2001, thanks to the credit.

Currently we have 60,000 children who are ELLs throughout our state schools.

We need more decent and secure housing for the thousands of famworking families and children who are waiting for them to be built so we can guarantee that more children live in a decent house will come to school every day ready to learn.

We cannot expect to reach our 40-40-20 North Start aspirational goal by 2025 for all our children if they don't have their most primary need covered: decent and secure housing. Please support HB 2980/2474 and extension of the Farmworker Housing Tax Credit.

Please support safe, decent, and affordable housing for our children.

Thank You!

OREGON ALLIANCE FOR EDUCATION EQUITY (OAEE)

VISION

Oregon Communities of Color, English Language Learners (ELLs), advocacy organizations, and other allies are united to ensure that schools promote equity, eliminate disparities, and value diversity so that *all* students are prepared to become successful adults.

MISSION

The Oregon Alliance for Education Equity is a non-partisan coalition of community organizations that represent communities of color, English Language Learners (ELLs), education advocates, families/parents, allies and other stakeholders. We are united to eliminate racial and ethnic disparities in education and ensure that students of color and students learning English graduate from high school prepared to be successful adults and global citizens. We educate, advocate, and engage with decision-makers to support policy changes that promote equity for students in and out of school.

ORGANIZATION MEMBERS ON MARCH 1, 2013:

Salem/Keizer Coalition for Equality, APANO, NAACP Branches from Salem-Keizer, Corvallis, & Eugene/Springfield, Centro Cultural of Washington County, Latino Network of Portland, Portland Urban League, Unete from Medford, Stand for Children, Chalkboard Project, REAP Inc., Portland Teachers Program, Oregon Native American 9 Tribal Governments, Oregon Indian Education Association, Casa Latinos Unidos de Benton County, Adelante Mujeres, Siwash Resources, Oregon Commission on Black Affairs, Lyn and Benton Hispanic Advisory Committee, UNA VOZ: Latino Leadership and Advocacy Inc. & ACLU of Oregon

Supported in Principle By:

National Council of La Raza, Education Trust, Oregon Commissions on Hispanic, and Asian Affairs, Self Enhancement Inc., Oregon Diversity Institute, Latinos In Leadership from Reynolds, Portland Parent Union, BPI, & Si Se Puede Oregon, Mano a Mano Family Center, Una Voz Coalition from Jackson County, Latinos Unidos Siempre (LUS), PCUN, CAUSA, Blacks In Government & Center for Intercultural Organizing.