



To: House Business and Labor Committee
Thi Vu, in support of HB 3025
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Chairs Holbey and members of the committee,

My name is Thi Vu and I am the world's greatest uncle, along with being a student at Portland Community College and a full time employed member of society today. I balance my passion for art with my passion for helping others. It doesn't always work the way I planned but in the end, just like everyone else I do my best and leave the rest up to a power greater than myself.

This wasn't always the case though, as in the past my being able to be gainfully employed was hampered by many things. The most significant one being my past felony record and the box that reads, "Have you ever been convicted of a felony."

When I would answer truthfully I was always denied an interview.

When I would lie, and get the interview, most times I would get the job. Unfortunately, I always worked hard, got promotions, and eventually had to get the background check done in order to advance further. My felonies would be found out and I would be terminated. My employers always said they regretted having to do this, but when I asked them if they would have hired me if I had been initially been truthful they would answer no.

So when the campaign came for Ban the Box, I saw this as a solution, not only for myself but for many others that will come after me searching for a chance to fit back in and participate in society. Banning the box will allow someone such as myself the opportunity to get into the interview and present myself as how I am today, not how I was. It will allow my potential employers the opportunity to weigh my worthiness based on my present self rather than on my past self.

I am asking you today to help support the A Fair Chance for All Ban the Box legislation. It is important to help make our Oregon families strong and productive. Please vote your approval for a fair chance. Allow men and women like myself a chance to prove ourselves worthy based on our actions today.