

Kate Brown
Governor



Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office
"Advocating Equality and Diversity"
1819 SW 5th Ave., Portland, OR 97201
O 503.302.9725/F 503.473.8519
Email: oaco.mail@oregon.gov

Testimony in Support of HB 3525
Monday, April 13, 2015
House Committee on Judiciary

Chair Barker and Committee Members:

My name is Alberto Moreno and I am the Chair of the Commission on Hispanic Affairs which represents the needs of over 500,000 Latinos in Oregon.

I am here before you today to ask for your help with a growing problem in our communities. That of Notary Public Fraud. Some Notary Publics are disproportionately targeting our communities and misrepresenting themselves as attorneys or providing legal counsel in naturalization processes and proceedings.

Unfortunately they are not qualified to represent our communities and many of our community members are defrauded of thousands and thousands of dollars.

Additionally, these unscrupulous Notary Publics also often use intimidation and coercion against our communities.

HB 3525 begins to address this problem by providing that using intimidation or fear to prevent a person from reporting violations of ORS 9.280 is a Class A misdemeanor.

HB 3525 is a measured response to the all too common practice of using fear and intimidation to further victimize individuals who have often already been injured through the illegal conduct of some Notaries.

On behalf of the 500,000 Latinos who call Oregon home, we ask you today to support this important consumer protection bill to ensure that our communities are protected and preserved.

Thank you.

Alberto Moreno, OCHA Chair

OR Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs
Stephen Ying, Chair
Mari Watanabe, Vice Chair
Legislative Liaisons:
Sen. Michael Dembrow
Rep. Gene Whisnant

OR Commission on Black Affairs
James I. Manning Jr., Chair
James Morris, Vice Chair
Legislative Liaisons:
Sen. Rod Monroe
Rep. Lew Frederick

OR Commission on Hispanic Affairs
Alberto Moreno, Chair
John Haroldson, Vice Chair
Legislative Liaisons:
Sen. Chip Shields
Rep. Jessica Vega Pederson

OR Commission for Women
Stephanie Vardavas, Chair
Jeanne Burch, Vice Chair
Legislative Liaisons:
Sen. Laurie Monnes Anderson
Rep. Betty Komp

Staff
Lucy Baker, Administrator
Nancy Kramer, Executive Assistant