From: <u>Carina Quintanilla</u>

To: <u>LRO</u>

Cc: Rep Nathanson; Sen Hass

Subject: Adelante Mujeres Testimony on SB 2164 for 6-14-2019

Date: Wednesday, June 12, 2019 11:40:38 AM

Attachments: <u>IDA testimony 0522.pdf</u>

Dear Chair Nathanson and Chair Hass, and members of the Joint Committee on Tax Expenditures

My name is Carina Quintanilla and I am the Education IDA specialist at Adelante Mujeres. We are a non-profit organization that offers services to low-income Latina women and their families in Washington County. I am asking you to take action to ensure that Individual Development Accounts remain available to Oregonians who need them. Please include the provisions of SB 790 in HB 2164.

Individual Development Accounts are a valuable tool to give Oregonians with low incomes the boost they need to build a more secure financial future. IDAs have allowed our program participants to pursue post-secondary education without the burden of finances. All of our participants are first-generation Latinas and this program is incredibly empowering for them and their families.

We need the Legislature to take action to keep the Oregon IDA Initiative working in our communities, and we need to expand the reach of IDAs to more people. We serve over 75 low-income high school students each year and nearly all are interested in pursuing an IDA. There are not nearly enough available and we are generally only able to enroll 3 students into the program each year.

Attached you will also find a written testimony from a former participant of the program. She shares her experience with the IDA.

Thank you for all of your hard work this session, and thank you for your attention to keeping IDAs available.

Kind regards, Carina Quintanilla



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