

#### **#4 Angelica Cortes**

Chair and members of this committee, my name is **Angelica Cortes**. I live in Multnomah County. I am a community member who supports various Nonprofit organizations, for example, the Oregon Food bank. I am also a wife of a US Citizen and the mother of a child born in this country. I am addressing you today to request your support on passing HB 2819 Leave No Worker Behind.

I am a worker who pays her taxes and I do not have the right to benefit from the Earned Income tax credit (EITC). During this excruciating times with the pandemic I am unable to receive benefits such as food stamps or health insurance. If the HB 2819 is approved many families in the state and me personally would benefit greatly. In my case, I would not have to work two jobs to meet basic needs such as rent, electricity, healthy food, and medical expenses. It would be an important factor because I could spend more quality time with my family, be involved in my child's school and his development. My health would benefit because I would not have such high levels of stress that lead me to experience chronic back pain and diabetes. All workers not matter their place of origin should be able to earn enough to support their families and lead healthy and comfortable lives. In deep gratitude for your support.