

Chair Gelser Blouin, Vice-Chair Robinson, and Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services:

For the record, I am Jackie Leung, Executive Director of the Micronesian Islander Community and Co-Chair with the Oregon Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs (OCAPIA).

OCAPIA works for the implementation and establishment of economic, social, legal, and political equity for Asian and Pacific Islander Americans in the state of Oregon and to maintain a continuing assessment of issues and needs confronting Asian and Pacific Islander Americans in this state. OCAPIA has several statutory duties, all of which revolve around advocacy and equity.

I am writing to you in support of SB 606, the Non-Profit Modernization Act.

Non-profits provide much-needed support and assistance to the community. During the first years of the COVID pandemic, Oregon Health Authority Public Health Division recognized the need to include nonprofits, including community-based organizations, in providing community support when the pandemic took hold of the state. SB 606 helps to ensure that Oregon's nonprofits retain staff to continue providing essential services to Oregonians.

SB 606 provides several important needs. First, it develops a workforce retention fund to ensure nonprofits can retain their current employees in the short term. In addition, SB 606 includes the creation of a Nonprofit Task Force to explore how the state can do better in providing support to nonprofits, from payment delivery, reevaluating reporting requirements, and increasing nonprofit wages to ensure

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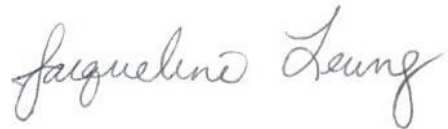
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that all employees who desire to pursue a career in nonprofit work, are able to afford to do so.

I strongly urge you to pass SB 606 to ensure that all Oregon non-profits are given their fair share and recognized for their contributions before, during, and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sincerely,





Jackie Leung

Co-Chair, Oregon Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs



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