

Submitter: Samantha Ratcliffe

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

Measure: HB4085

I support House Bill 4085. Many of our immigrant Oregonians face barriers accessing immigration legal services. They often do not know who to reach out to in order to obtain advice and services and low-income undocumented Oregonians cannot cover the legal fees to apply for immigration status or relief. These grants would help immensely in both paying for application fees for citizenship, residency, or other categories of immigration applications and in expanding services.

There is a need in Oregon for grants like these to stabilize entire families when one or more of its members are seeking legal pathways to legal status and eventually citizenship. Legal Service Providers could benefit from diversifying sources of funding to fill in the gaps and expand services. This grant will help low-income undocumented Oregonians avoid ever being in deportation proceedings.

Thank you,

Samantha Ratcliffe

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