

Submitter: Shelby Kane

On Behalf Of: Community member

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Capital Construction

Measure: HB5202

My name is Adam, and I am a proud member of the African immigrant community here in Hillsboro. When I first arrived in this country, I felt lost and alone, unsure of where to turn for support. But then I found CAIRO, and everything changed.

From the moment I walked through their doors, I was welcomed with open arms by a community that embraced me as one of their own. Through CAIRO's afterschool program classes, I gained the skills I needed to communicate with confidence. Through their job training programs, I found employment that allowed me to support my family. And through their cultural events, I discovered a sense of pride in my heritage that I had never known before.

But perhaps most importantly, CAIRO gave me something that I had been searching for since I left my home country: a sense of belonging. In the company of fellow immigrants and refugees, I found friendship, support, and a shared understanding of the challenges we faced. Together, we lifted each other up, celebrating our triumphs and supporting each other through our struggles.

Today, I stand before you as a testament to the transformative power of CAIRO and the unwavering support of the Hillsboro Hops. Without their generosity and commitment to our community, organizations like CAIRO would not be able to provide the vital services and support that so many immigrants and refugees rely on.

The Hillsboro Hops have not only been a supporter of CAIRO's mission, but they have also been a source of inspiration and hope for all of us. Their belief in the power of community and their dedication to making a difference in the lives of others serves as a shining example of what is possible when we come together with compassion and generosity.

So, on behalf of myself and the entire CAIRO community, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to the Hillsboro Hops for their continued support and partnership. Together, we are building a brighter future for all who call Hillsboro home, and we are eternally grateful for their role in making that vision a reality.