



WOMEN'S FOUNDATION of OREGON

Invest in Women. Invest in Oregon. Invest in Change.

Senate Committee of Judiciary
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Senate Bill 703

Dear Chair Prozanski Vice-Chair Thatcher and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Women's Foundation of Oregon, I am writing to express our strong support for Senate Bill 703. This critical legislation directs the Department of Human Services to provide grants to nonprofit service providers assisting noncitizen individuals in changing their immigration status or obtaining lawful permanent resident status.

At the Women's Foundation of Oregon, we are committed to advancing gender and racial justice by addressing systemic inequities that impact women and girls across the state. Many women, particularly those from immigrant communities, face compounded barriers to safety, stability, and opportunity. SB 703 provides essential resources to nonprofit organizations working directly with these individuals, ensuring they have access to the legal and social support necessary to navigate complex immigration processes.

The ability to secure lawful immigration status is a foundational step toward economic security and community participation. Without access to these services, many noncitizen women are left vulnerable to exploitation, housing instability, and limited access to healthcare and education. By funding these critical services, SB 703 promotes a more inclusive Oregon where all individuals—regardless of their immigration status—can thrive and contribute fully to our communities.

We applaud the Legislature for recognizing the urgent need to support noncitizen individuals and the organizations that serve them. We urge you to advance SB 703 to ensure that every Oregonian has the opportunity to live with dignity and security.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to equity and justice.

Sincerely,

Libra Forde
Executive Director
Women's Foundation of Oregon