

Chair Prozanski Vice-Chair  
Thatcher and members of  
the committee

My Name is Pamela Hazen  
and I am a constituent,  
From Portland.

I enthusiastically support  
SB 703/HB 2788,  
Pathways to Protection  
and Citizenship. SB 703

allocates money to the Department of Human Services to award grants to nonprofit legal service providers that cover the cost of clients legal services. This is a bill that will save and strengthen families, improve outcomes in ODHS programs, bolster our workforce, and strengthen the general fund by helping immigrants

transition from state services like Healthier Oregon to OHP.

Up to 1/3 of Oregonians without an immigration status are actually eligible under federal law for an immigration status. That is over 25,000 Oregonians who, but for the high cost of legal services, are living in fear, out of the

employment mainstream, and unable to support their families. Immigrant and refugee communities make up more than 13% of our state's workforce, yet legal costs prevent many Oregonians from obtaining a more secure immigration status.

Thank you for your time  
and for standing with all  
Oregonians.

Sincerely,

Pamela Hazen