

Submitter: Lynn McClenahan  
On Behalf Of: First Unitarian Church IJAG  
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB703

My name is Lynn McClenahan and I am a Licensed Mental Health counselor. I have been active with the Immigrant Justice Action Group and First Unitarian Church and have volunteered for 7 years in Guatemala for Mayan Families.

I very much support SB703/HB2788, Pathways to Protection and Citizenship. This bill would provide grants to nonprofit legal service providers to cover the cost of client's legal services. Up to 1/3 of Oregonians without an immigration status are actually eligible under federal law for an immigration status. They are living in fear, out of the employment mainstream, and having difficulty supporting their families. They contribute on many levels to our community as they make up more than 13% of our state's work force but legal costs prevent many from obtaining a more secure immigration status.

I'm so happy to live in a state like Oregon which supports our immigrant population. Thank you for also supporting this population by voting yes on SB703/HB 2788 and standing with all Oregonians.

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