

## Support for Senate Bill 703

I support Senate Bill 703 because I am the offspring of immigrants who came to America in the early 20th century. My great grandparents worked to educate their children, to own businesses and to build communities with those who shared values and faith, in American freedom and liberties.

Senate Bill 703 provides for immigrants and refugees who also want to work and become part of our America. The land that values and welcomes people. We have abundance and we need people who will work in tough conditions to earn a livelihood. To make this work, we need businesses, government and individuals to speak up for those who may be new to our neighborhoods and communities.

Our family has been involved in supporting families from Togo, Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria. We volunteer to help these families learn about our transportation, medical and education systems. To make this work happen, we need partnerships state agencies and other non-profit organizations, such as IRCO and Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon to provide legal services, update and adjust legal status and keep deportation for those who are not trying their best to follow the rule of law.

Oregon needs farmworkers, small business owners like grocers and food cart owners. And, we need services for these neighbors.

Support SB 703 for the lives this will benefit – all of our lives.