

Submitter: Inidra Bakshi
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB703

Honorable Chair Prozanski and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary.

As a sanctuary state Oregon stands for the safety, dignity and human rights of all of its residents. I am writing in support of SB 703, providing grants to nonprofits to help immigrants improve their legal status. Many people who would want to improve their status are hindered by the cost this would entail.

The nonprofits, to whom this program being proposed in SB 703, would have to verify their work, being required to report on the success of their grants.

There are good reasons to raise the experience of immigrant families, many of whom have been working, raising their children and paying taxes in this state for many, many years. These improvements for them would help create healthy families by further providing them with access to good work and healthcare for themselves and for their children. This frees them from fear, making them able to carry out their lives as any other person in the state is privileged to do. Helping families to stabilize their lives through proper documentation will have benefits beyond their immediate selves, creating more productive conditions for business and commerce in the state through a more secure, dependable workforce, a workforce that has become essential to our state economy.

Stable families and a strong workforce will make Oregon strong.

I strongly urge you to support SB 703. Thank you.

Indira Bakshi