

Submitter: Diana Richardson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB703

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,

I am writing to express my family's 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.

I am, and we all must be 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.

I applaud the Legislature for recognizing the urgent need to support noncitizen individuals and

the organizations that serve them. I 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,

Diana Richardson