

Submitter: Regina Ligon

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.

I've been working with a family of 5 from Kabul, Afghanistan since August of 2024. The father worked for the UN in Kabul during the war, his wife taught high school until the Taliban crackdown. They entered the country legally and are receiving help from a nonprofit whose funding has been cruelly curtailed by the current federal administration. They are a hardworking family trying to make ends meet. Both parents are enrolled at LCC taking English language classes in order to improve their chances in the job market. Of their English fluent children, their daughter is also enrolled at LCC working towards being accepted in nursing school. Their middle school son attends ATA and their older son works at night making deliveries. This bill is vital to keeping them safe in our country.

Thanks for your consideration,
Regina Ligon