

Submitter: Carol Potter  
On Behalf Of: United Women in Faith-Gresham United Methodist  
Chu  
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB703

Friends,

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 703. I believe it is time to help people of all ages and colors recognize that at one time we or our ancestors were all immigrants! (unless you are Native American!) For whatever reason our forefathers came to this country, we are citizens because they were welcomed and supported by the good people of this nation! Now it is our turn to welcome those who have often risked their lives to come to this country in search of a better life!

My husband and I live in a small community of Vietnamese, Blacks, people from Ukraine, Nigeria, Eritrea, Tonga...they are all our friends and neighbors, living peaceably in our neighborhood. We actively support the Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon and their SOAR program (Sponsors Organized to Assist Refugees), and it's legal department that helps eligible non-citizens adjust their immigration status. We also help organize a supply of housewares and furniture in our church basement where refugees can get (free!) the items they need to furnish their new house or apartment in our area.

This SB703 is needed to support ALL our refugee friends in Oregon. saving them from the fear of deportation they now face and bringing their gifts...whatever that might be.. to our great state of Oregon., Please vote in favor of SB703...It is a matter of faith for us...treating our neighbors as we would want to be treated if we, ourselves were immigrants.

Carol and Robert Potter