

Submitter:

Leslie Perez

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4117

My name is Leslie, and I am a resident of Forest Grove. I work as an immigration legal assistant at Adelante Mujeres, and I am writing in strong support of HB 4117, Universal Representation.

Immigrant Oregonians, our families, and communities have been targeted by violent, lawless ICE raids resulting in community wide terror and devastating family separations. No family should have to plan for parents being torn from their children. These reckless federal attacks demand a strong, unified state response. Universal Representation has already supported over 20,000 immigrant Oregonians. Demand has surged 4,000% since last year.

I support HB 4117 because everyone deserves due process and families belong together. Coming from an immigrant family as a first generation U.S. citizen, provides firsthand insight into the significant barriers immigrant families face, including limited access to legal services. In my role as an immigration legal assistant, I have seen demand for representation surge during ICE sweeps and have witnessed how critical these services are for individuals seeking stability and a secure future for themselves and their families. Universal Representation's statewide network helps address this gap and ensures meaningful access to justice for those most impacted by this crisis.