

Submitter: Sharon Hawks

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4117

Honorable Committee Chair and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to give testimony on this bill. At this time I am driving a Honduran woman, along with a team of others, to her work and pick up each day so that she can support her disabled husband and two children. They have spotted ICE in their neighborhood in Eugene and I hate to think what the horrible outcome would be if she were to be taken from the street, and separated from her husband and especially her children without legal help that would allow her to fight an illegal arrest. There are many families such as this in our state that are experiencing the same fears if they should be separated in such a brutal way. For this I am so very grateful for ECO which provides legal help for families who have had to flee their own countries and have been working, paying taxes and becoming a part of our communities. Because of the kinds of jobs these families often must work, they could not otherwise get the legal help needed if disaster were to strike. They have an equal right to due process as any other and especially in this scary and unfair moment we are in, we need to make sure they have it. Please support this important bill.

Thank you for your just consideration. Sharon Hawks, Eugene