

EDUCATION - EMPOWERMENT - ENTERPRISE

Support of SB 560 End Profiling Act Senate Judiciary Committee

June 17, 2013

Chair Prozanski, Vice Chair Close and Committee members:

My name is Bridget Cooke and I am the Executive Director of Adelante Mujeres (Flourish, Move Forward, Women). I am writing this letter in support of SB 560. Adelante Mujeres is an award winning 501(c)3 located in Forest Grove, Oregon. Since 2002, Adelante Mujeres, has provided low-income Latina women and their families the tools to achieve self-determination in the areas of education, empowerment and enterprise. Our participants are encouraged to engage in the community as active citizens, celebrate their cultural heritage, and improve their skills and self-esteem through academic success. Our holistic approach aims to build stronger families, healthier communities, and foster respect for our planet. In this last year alone, we served over 500 families in Washington County.

SB 560, End Profiling Act would provide guidance to law enforcement agencies to adopt written policies and procedures against profiling and require they provide regular training to officers to help them adhere to the profiling ban. Furthermore, complaints of profiling will be investigated and result in appropriate disciplinary action against officers found to be engaged in harmful activity. Finally this bill will require enforcement agencies to submit copies of complaints to the Attorney General who can monitor and investigate departments in violation of the ban.

In our second decade of success, Adelante Mujeres has been witness to how negatively discrimination impacts the health of our community and its ability to engage. We facilitate many programs from early childhood education classes to small business classes to promote an economically vibrant and safe society. SB 560 will add to our efforts to protect the human rights of all people.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony. Please contact me with any questions, 503.992.0078 x 207.

Sincerely,

Bridget Cooke Executive Director

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