FROM THE DESK OF





Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office "Advocating Equality and Diversity" 1819 SW 5th Ave., Portland, OR 97201 O 503.302.9725/F 503.473.8519 Email: <u>oaco.mail@state.or.us</u>

Testimony in support of HB 2668

Chair Barker, Vice Chairs Garrett and Krieger, and Representatives Barton, Cameron, Hicks, Olson, Tomei and Williamson,

The Oregon Advocacy Commissions are submitting testimony in support of HB 2668 which clarifies that public property is subject to public accommodation. We represent the:

- The Commission on Asian & Pacific Islander Affairs
- The Commission on Black Affairs
- The Commission on Hispanic Affairs
- The Commission for Women

Equal access is a priority for each of the Oregon Advocacy Commissions and is the underlying issue of most of our advocacy and policy work. This includes access to governmental bodies providing essential services, education, and many fundamental supports for communities of color and women in Oregon.

There should be no confusion on whether certain governmental bodies and their services are covered by requirements for accommodation. We believe that clear wording and clear intention is a key factor in meeting compliance issues, accommodation among them.

The Oregon Advocacy Commissions urge the Committee members to positively consider this clarifying legislation and

OR Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs Stephen Ying, Chair Mari Watanabe, Vice Chair Legislative Liaisons: Sen. Jackie Dingfelder Rep. Gene Whisnant

OR Commission on Black Affairs

Isaac E. Dixon, Chair James Morris, Vice Chair Legislative Liaisons: Sen. Rod Monroe Rep. Lew Frederick

OR Commission on Hispanic Affairs

Andrea Cano, Chair Gilbert P. Carrasco, Vice Chair Legislative Liaisons: Sen. Chip Shields Rep. Chris Harker

OR Commission for Women

Stephanie Vardavas, Chair Jeanne Burch, Vice Chair Legislative Liaisons: Sen. Monnes Anderson Rep. Betty Komp

Staff

Lucy Baker, Administrator Nancy Kramer, Executive Assistant

support it with your vote. HB 2668 is a needed step to assure clarity on accommodation in the public and government locations that Oregonians depend on for access.

Sincerely,

Stephen Ying, Chair, OCAPIA

Andrea Cano, Chair, OCHA Andrea Cano

Isaac Dixon, Chair, OCBA

Stephanie Vardavas, Chair, OCFW