



February 4, 2020

RE: HB 4003

Dear Chair Keny-Guyer, Vice-Chair Noble, Vice-Chair Williams, and members of the House Committee on Human Services and Housing

I'm writing in support of HB 4003 which will help to minimize the racial disparities in educational access, business ownership and home ownership across Oregon.

The Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber (Hispanic Chamber) is a non-profit organization that has served Oregonians for over 25 years. We have worked with CASA of Oregon and have helped savers access IDAs for students wishing to access higher education and micro-enterprises that want to start or expand a business.

IDAs are an important resource that allows low income individuals to access financing that they would not otherwise be able to access. The program also requires financial literacy training, and supervision for regular bank deposits into a savings account. This is very important for young savers and very important for immigrants and refugees that are learning about our systems.

We encourage you to support the recommendations being made by the Joint Task force to Addressing Racial Disparities

Thank you for your time and service in the legislature. Your work is important to all Oregonians.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gale Castillo". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Gale Castillo  
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