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Dear Chair Bynum, Rep. Helm and Committee Members,

I am writing to you today to urge you to pass HB 3265, The Sanctuary Promise Act. This legislation will update, clarify and strengthen Oregon's existing 30+-year-old sanctuary law, which has been such an important part of our progressive state's identity. Passing HB 3265 is a vital step in creating an Oregon where all people feel their families are safe, secure and protected.

As a person whose faith is rooted in the Christian tradition, I believe all people are worthy of respect and dignity. We all need and deserve radical hospitality to feel welcome, supported and included. When state and local government agencies across Oregon assist Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents to target and arrest my neighbors of color, they tear families apart, foment fear and destroy the trust our communities are built on. HB 3265 will help my fellow Oregonians feel safe from unfair harassment and profiling when they are going to work, running errands, driving to their places of worship, and just trying to live full and productive lives.

I care about the Sanctuary Promise Act because, when I moved my family here from all the way across the country (New Hampshire), I felt like an immigrant. I knew no one and nothing about Oregon life. Immigrant mamas from Mexico and China were the first to reach out and welcome me, share their knowledge, and offer friendship.

Rep. Helm, I particularly call on you to support HB 3265 because you know how vital immigrants are to the health and prosperity of our communities here in House District 34.

As a member of the Interfaith Movement for Immigrant Justice (IMIJ), I am proud and humbled to be part of a network of people of faith and fierce love who have stood beside community members as they've navigated a broken immigration system that separates families and tears communities apart. While purpose can get lost in legislative language, this law is really about uniting people and communities together to ensure all Oregonians feel safer. Please pass HB 3265.

Thank you for your service and attention,

Amy Robison