



Date: March 29, 2021

To: House committee on Judiciary

Re: Support for HB 3230

The Oregon Education Association represents over 41,000 educators and education service professionals across the state, from pre-k to the community college level. A child's education is heavily affected by not just direct classroom experience, but by all the factors that impact their lives: housing, food, stability, etc.... That is why OEA supports HB 3230, and feels it is critical to ensuring all our students get access to the education and future they deserve.

Deportations are devastating on a family. Having a parent, grandparent, or other loved family or community member leave suddenly and in such a callous way can leave a child scared and scarred. A child dealing with that trauma can not be expected to keep up with their schoolwork, much less succeed. At the very least, they and their loved ones deserve fair representation in court, and a chance at justice.

HB 3230 would create a robust system that give Oregonians agency in their own futures, and supports families going through the trauma of deportation proceedings. It would: create a statewide call center that would provide direct contacts and streamline access for those seeking help; allow individuals to choose their provider; and embed lawyers, through fellowships, at CBOs to ensure community members could turn to the organizations they already know and trust in times of need.

All Oregonians should be treated with dignity and respect regardless of where they were born. But Oregonians who are immigrants and refugees, especially immigrant Oregonians who are Black, Indigenous, or people of color, have faced increased immigration enforcement that includes racial profiling, detention, family separation, and potential removal to countries where they have fled violence and persecution.

HB 3230 is critical for our community. Please pass it with a do pass recommendation.