

To: House Rules Committee
From: Kate Titus, Common Cause Oregon
Re: SB 1560, Statutory References to Noncitizens
Date: Feb 21, 2021

Common Cause

Common Cause is a nonpartisan organization that works for open, honest, accountable government. We are over 1.5 million Americans – including roughly 30,000 Oregonians – working together to realize the unfinished promise of democracy.

Common Cause Supports SB 1560

The case for SB 1560 seems self-evident. Use of the term “alien” to describe noncitizens serves to alienate and dehumanize. Why not opt for more respectful language? We have nothing to gain by retaining statutory language that is offensive to many people. We appreciate Sen. Jama and all the bill sponsors for initiating this opportunity to do better.

We urge the committee to support this bill.