

Chair Fahey, Vice Chairs Breese-Iverson and Kropf, and Members of the House Committee on Rules,

For the record, my name is Melina Moran, and I am the Chair of the Oregon Commission on Hispanic Affairs (OCHA).

OCHA serves the people of Oregon to empower and support Latinos through our special roles as policy advisors to Oregon state policymakers and leaders. The OCHA is a catalyst that empowers partnerships between the state government and Hispanic communities in rural and urban areas to ensure success for all Latinos by addressing issues at the policy level.

I am writing to you in support of HB 2955, which would designate August 4th as the Bracero Program Day.

The Braceros program played a significant role in developing Oregon's agricultural industry and economy.

These workers came to Oregon from Mexico to work on farms, nurseries, and orchards, contributing their labor to the growth of crops such as apples, berries, and hops. Their hard work and dedication helped to ensure that these industries continued to thrive, providing food and resources to communities throughout the state and beyond.

Recognizing the Braceros in Oregon is essential because their history is our history. Their contributions are part of the story of Oregon and its growth, and acknowledging their work helps us understand our state's complex and interconnected history. Their labor helped shape Oregon's landscape, from the farms and orchards they worked on to the communities they lived in.

Furthermore, recognizing the Braceros in Oregon is a meaningful way to acknowledge the challenges and injustices that they faced. These workers often faced discrimination, poor working conditions, and limited access to fundamental rights and protections. By recognizing their experiences, we can work towards creating a more just and equitable society that values the contributions of all workers, regardless of their background or origin.

**Oregon Commission
on Hispanic Affairs**

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Melina Moran, DPN, APRN

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In conclusion, recognizing the Braceros in Oregon is an essential step towards acknowledging immigrant workers' contributions to our state's growth and prosperity. Their history is our history, and by recognizing their work and experiences, we can work towards building a more inclusive and just society for all.

I urge the committee to join the Oregon Commission on Hispanic Affairs in support of honoring the Braceros and their impact on Oregon history by voting yes on HB 2955.

Sincerely,




Melina Moran, DPN, APRN

Chair, Oregon Commission on Hispanic Affairs



<https://www.oregonadvocacy.org/> 

503.302.9725 

oaco.mail@oregon.gov 

PO Box 17550, Portland, OR 97217 