

2/7/2024

Representative Lisa Reynolds
Chair, House Committee on Early Childhood and Human Services
900 Court St NE, H-485
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for House Bill 4085

RootedHomes calls on you to support HB 4085, which directs Oregon's Department of Human Services (ODHS) to provide grants that cover the legal fees that undocumented Oregonians may incur as they navigate the process of applying for permanent protection.

Access to financial assistance to help navigate the incredibly complex immigration system opens up the opportunity for more families to obtain a lawful resident status, enabling them to access employment, health care, education, and the right to purchase a home. RootedHomes supports this bill because obtaining a legal pathway to citizenship enables immigrants to gain access to household stability, including the right to purchase a home. Right now, there is not a pathway for people who are undocumented to access affordable homeownership in the communities they live, work and support.

Supporting HB4085 is a positive step to advance legal representation for immigrant Oregonians with affirmative cases. Vote YES on HB4085 and help advance equality for Immigrant Oregonians across the state.

Respectfully,

Tess Spellacy
Homeownership Program Manager
RootedHomes
Bend, Oregon