02/02/2024

SUBJECT: Yes to HB 4085, Fund Pathways to Citizenship

Yes on HB 4085

Chair Reynolds, Vice-Chair Nguyen, Vice-Chair Scharf, Members of the Committee:

My name is Win Mar Lar Kyin and I live in Multnomah County, Portland, Oregon. I am writing to you today as a Myanmar refugee to express my fervent support for House Bill 4085, the Pathway to Citizenship. This bill holds immense significance for refugees like me and countless others who have fled persecution and sought refuge in the United States.

My journey to this country was one fraught with uncertainty, fear, and desperation. Like many others, I left behind everything I knew and loved in search of safety and freedom. The United States opened its arms to me, offering sanctuary and the promise of a better future. Yet, despite finding refuge on these shores, the path to stability and security remains elusive without a pathway to citizenship.

House Bill 4085 offers hope and opportunity to immigrants like me who dream of belonging and contributing fully to the fabric of American society. Providing access to immigration legal services ensures that individuals can navigate the complex legal landscape and pursue lawful permanent status without fear or hindrance.

For too long, countless immigrants have lived in the shadows, their aspirations stifled by legal barriers. House Bill 4085 represents a beacon of hope, a chance to emerge from the shadows and embrace the full rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

I urge you, esteemed members of the House, to support this crucial piece of legislation. Let us reaffirm the values of compassion, inclusion, and justice that have long defined the United States as a beacon of hope for the oppressed and persecuted. Together, let us pave the way for a brighter, more inclusive future—one where every individual, regardless of their background or circumstance, can aspire to achieve the American dream.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Win Mar Lar Kyin

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