

February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Education Committee Chair Neron, Vice Chairs, and members of the committee, my name is Yasi Lemus Isla, and I work at Adelante Mujeres, a community-based nonprofit in Forest Grove. I am here to testify in support of HB 4082 and ask you to Invest in Summer Learning.

How part of our Adelante Mujeres' educational programs we partner with families and Forest Grove, Hillsboro, and Beaverton School districts, to provide after school and summer programming with a strong focus on social and emotional skills students development. Our community of color is impacted by many economic and social barriers that makes it impossible for Latino families to access extracurricular and summer school educational services that come at a cost. Finance extra escolar and Summer Learning programs result very helpful to support children and young to grow.

I would like to share a family story related to these services. When I started to work at Adelante Mujeres 8 years ago, I was having many difficulties with my daughter. She had many emotional barriers to establishing relations with other people to make friends, she was insecure. My daughter started to attend "Chicas's Technology Program" an extra escolar provided for Adelante Mujeres. I can't say at what moment this situation turned over, but I can say that the program helped very much to my daughter because she loves technology, and this learning experience supported her very much in establishing new Friendship relations with other people who were just like her and had the same interest. Today my daughter finished a college career in Accounting Sciences and works for an Audit Financial Company and this bad time was just a shadow in the past, I feel very grateful to Chica's extrasolar program of Adelante Mujeres for supporting my daughter's growth.

Proposals like HB 4082 could reverse this impact on the Latino community by offering equitable opportunities to support Latino children and youth.

Please consider voting yes on HB 4082, Invest in Summer Learning, and support our children of color.

Thank you for listening.

Yasi Lemus Isla