



March 7, 2025

**Senate Committee on Judiciary  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court St NE  
Salem, OR 97301**

**Re: Support for SB 174**

**Chair Prozanski, Vice Chair Thatcher, and Members of the Committee:**

**Centro Cultural urges your support of SB 174, Strengthening Consumer Protections in Oregon's Insurance Industry. The bill aims to close a critical gap in consumer protection, ensuring that insurance companies are held to the same ethical standards as other businesses in Oregon.**

**Centro Cultural is the oldest and longest-serving Latino culturally specific organization in the state of Oregon. It empowers Latino families and diverse communities by removing barriers, fostering well-being, and building power to achieve economic prosperity. Centro centers the experiences of those most impacted in our communities in everything we do, with a commitment to reducing barriers at every level of our work.**

**Insurance is an essential and often required service that consumers rely on to safeguard their homes and vehicles, provide financial security for their loved ones in the event of an unexpected passing, and ensure access to long-term care in case of a serious injury from significant unforeseen**

costs. When we invest in insurance, we expect companies to uphold their commitments during times of crisis or hardship.

Oregon's insurance industry is currently the only major industry not covered by Oregon's Unlawful Trade Practices Act (UTPA). The insurance industry should be held to the same standards of accountability and transparency as other industries, and Oregon consumers should have the same protections and avenues for recourse when dealing with all industries. As it stands, consumers harmed by fraudulent or unethical insurance practices have limited protections when dealing with bad actors in the industry.

SB 174 would:

- Bring the insurance industry under the scope of the Oregon Unlawful Trade Practices Act and align it with all other major consumer industries.
- Increase consumer trust and confidence in their insurance purchases.
- Provide Oregonians with protections when an insurance company is using deceptive or unfair business practices.

We urge your support of SB 174 to protect Oregonians from fraudulent and unethical insurance practices. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony and for your service to Oregon communities.

Sincerely,

Nansi Lopez

Policy Director