

Submitter: Theresa Morton

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB703

I volunteer with the Refugee Resettlement Coalition and non-refugee immigrants in Eugene. Many immigrants in and around Eugene are frightened, many not leaving their homes. President Trump's tirades throw gasoline on the fire almost every day.

And yet, many come with brutal stories of their home countries and could qualify for asylum, if it were not such an expensive process.

I facilitate the Coalition and we work in partnership with the Refugee Immigrant & Services Program of Catholic Community Services. They have assisted hundreds of clients over the past nine years, and more are coming to the office daily. They try to serve everyone they can, but much more is needed. They are perfectly situated to expand the number of immigrants they serve, if given the resources.

We urge you to support SB 703. Thank you for your attention to this issue, at a time when the federal government is doing less and less.