

Submitter: Janice Stevens

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB703

As a member of a faith community in Portland and a person who believes that housing the homeless is one of the most important parts of caring for our community, I wholeheartedly support SB 703/HB 2788, Pathways to Protection and Citizenship. Many years ago my church welcomed and supported several Vietnamese "boat people." We provided temporary shelter and then assisted in getting everyone into affordable housing. It wasn't easy then and is more difficult now. These two large families are productive, active participants in their communities; doctors, nurses, lawyers, etc. They had the opportunity and assistance needed to become citizens of the US. We can do no less now, when immigrants are being attacked, bullied, forceably detained, and removed.

We must stand up for our sisters and brothers who cannot stand up for themselves. As a member of United Women in Faith (formerly United Methodist Women) whose focus is on immigration, we can do no less.

Respectfully,
Janice Stevens