

## IMMIGRATION COUNSELING SERVICE

SINCE 1978. A NON-PROFIT LAW FIRM PROVIDING IMMIGRATION LEGAL SERVICES TO PERSONS FLEEING PERSECUTION, FAMILIES SEPARATED BY BORDERS AND THOSE SEEKING A PATH TO CITIZENSHIP

April 1, 2025

The Honorable Senator Lisa Reynolds
The Honorable Representative Shannon Isadore
Oregon Legislature
900 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Senator Reynolds and Representative Isadore,

RE: Senate Bill 602 - Task Force on Modernizing Nonprofit Grant Funding and Contracting Recommendations

Immigration Counseling Service (ICS) joins with Oregon's nonprofits to ask you to support the recommendations of the state Task Force on Modernizing Grant Funding and Contracting by passing Senate Bill 602. The recommendations are designed to improve the process and outcomes of government grants and contracts by empowering nonprofits to deliver critical services efficiently and cost effectively to Oregonians.

ICS is Oregon's oldest, and only, independent non-profit law firm providing affordable immigration legal services. Our mission is to achieve equity and justice for immigrants and their families by providing accessible services to uphold their legal rights. Through deliberate and direct engagement, ICS brings immigrant voices and experiences to the decision-making table. We honor and respect the contributions made by immigrants to keep our economy strong and our communities vibrant. We serve all 36 counties in Oregon.

Senate Bill 602, if enacted, improves and streamlines how government grants and contracts are structured and administered. Requiring a de minimis administrative rate of 10% or higher would make us less likely to lose money on government contracts. Eliminating reimbursement as a form of payment for state contracts would ensure that we do not go into debt while waiting for payments on services we have already provided. Ultimately, these changes will ensure that immigrants and refugees in Oregon are able to access safe, trusted, and reliable legal services for another 47 years.

To review all of the task force's findings and recommendations, we encourage you to read the <u>full</u> <u>report</u>. We hope that we can count on your leadership in guiding the passage of Senate Bill 602.

Sincerely,

Frank Garcia
Executive Director

www.ics-law.org

Cc Senate Rules Committee

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