

Dear Chair Senator Prozanski, Vice Chair Senator Thatcher and Senators Broadman, Gelser Blouin, Manning, McLane

I am John Kingery a Canadian American citizen living in Beaverton OR attending St Juan Diego Parish, I support immigrant and refugee brothers and sisters through membership in St. Juan Diego's Social Justice Ministry, the Interfaith Movement for Immigrant Justice, and individually.

Please accept my testimony supporting SB 149 *Extended Case Management program for refugees and other community members who are eligible.*

As the Senate Judiciary Committee, you have the responsibilities of:

- Considering and voting on legislation relating to the judiciary, civil and criminal law, and other legal matters.
- Reviewing written information and verbal testimony from experts and the public regarding proposed legislation
- Recommending to the full Senate on whether to pass, amend, or table a piece of legislation.

I attended your Monday April 7 hearing where you partially fulfilled your committee legislative responsibilities. I urge you to recommend the full Senate pass SB 149. We will be meeting our moral, civic, and legal responsibilities as citizens of Oregon and the United States.

## Moral:

Our moral duties are based upon the Declaration of Independence and Oregon's Constitution Bill of Rights flowing from Scripture.

## Declaration of Independence:

*We hold these truths to be self-evident, **that all men are created equal**, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.*

## Oregon Bill of Rights:

**Section 1. Natural rights inherent in people.** *We declare that all men, when they form a social compact are equal in right: that all power is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded on their authority, and instituted for their peace, safety, and happiness; and they have at all times a right to alter, reform, or abolish the government in such manner as they may think proper.*

Over time we have come to realize *all men* means **all people**.

### Scriptural:

#### **Leviticus 19:34**

*'The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.'*

#### **Deuteronomy 27:19**

*'Cursed is anyone who withholds justice from the foreigner, the fatherless or the widow.'*  
*Then all the people shall say, 'Amen!'*

#### **Matthew 25:35**

*I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.*

#### **Hebrews 13: 1-3**

*Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured.*

**Yesterday**, I met a woman and her family from Venezuela. Arriving via CHNV humanitarian parole program. The federal program that will terminate April 24 and parole status will end.

**Last week**, I was washing my car and could not remove my floor mats, Ishmael from Afghanistan helped me; Ramadan was ending. He had entered through the Afghan resettlement program and Green card. Ishmael's brother has not. Those programs will end soon. Haven't they suffered enough?

**Last Fall, my wife and I** were attempting to walk down a very rocky and wet path to the beach. My wife is blind, and I need a cane to steady myself. Two young people from Venezuela helped my wife and I get back from the beach.

They were all angels. I gave them information on low-cost legal services – Catholic Charities, Ecumenical ministries, and others.

## Civic:

All three stories above point out how they contribute to our communities and our Oregon in a positive manner to services. They deserve access to services enabling them to integrate into our communities more fully.

## Legal:

I graduated from Villanova University's immigration advocacy program; I know the Constitution and immigration law.

## Constitution:

**Article the seventh...***nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, **nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law;***

## Bill of Rights:

### Amendment V

*.. nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, **nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law...***

### AMENDMENT XIV

#### Section 1.

All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; **nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.**

## Closing:

The federal government, by its terminating humanitarian refugee programs and their funding have failed in the moral, Civic and legal responsibilities.

Cuts in Federal funding will make it difficult if not impossible for local organizations and individuals to provide necessary compassionate legal and community support.

I respectfully urge you to recommend the full Senate pass SB 149.

Sincerely,

John Marshall Kingery

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Web: Justice At the Table

Villanova University Cert Immigration Advocacy 2020

Archdiocese of Portland/Notre Dame University Cert Lay Ministry 2015

Seattle University BPA 1981

"We will be known by the difference we make in truth, love and unity through effective compassion and service to others."