

April 9, 2025

Senate Committee on Rules 900 Court Street NE Salem Oregon 97301

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

Dear Chair Jama, Vice Chair Bonham and Committee Members,

Adelante Mujeres 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.

Part of my responsibilities as the Director of Finance is to oversee grant financial reports, which requires a deep understanding of GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles), fund accounting, and internal controls. Nonprofit finance staff must have technical training and specialized accounting software to be able to properly document all financial grant activity as required by funders.

However, the true drivers of grant management are program staff, whose focus should be on their programs and the grant deliverable, they ideally should not be overly burdened by administrative work. To help alleviate the burden, nonprofit administrative teams spend a lot of time designing systems to help track grant requirements, restrictions, and expenses. Furthermore, we continuously train program staff on how to accurately code activity and oversee grant budgets.

Despite the important role administrative staff have in grant management, nonprofits must rely on unrestricted funding to cover their time and costs. Senate Bill 602 recognizes that there is a lot of hidden work when it comes to managing grants. Adelante Mujeres supports Bill 602 because it is a step forward toward valuing all the work nonprofits do, which is not only to deliver on program goals, but also their ability to satisfy the many administrative requirements.

We hope that we can count on your leadership in guiding the passage of Senate Bill 602. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Xandi Aranda Director of Finance