

One Hundred Sixth Legislature - Second Session - 2020

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB745

Chairperson: Senator Steve Lathrop

Committee: Judiciary

Date of Hearing: January 31, 2020

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

Creates a uniform certification process for T&U Visas in support of law enforcement and victims of violent crimes.

Certification requires that state and local law enforcement, prosecutors, or other certifying agencies verify the following information for T Visas:

- The victim is or was a victim of trafficking
- The victim has complied with any reasonable requests from law enforcement in an investigation or prosecution of human trafficking.

Certification requires that state and local law enforcement, prosecutors, or other certifying agencies verify the following information for U Visas:

- That a qualifying criminal activity has occurred
- That the victim has information about the criminal activity.
- That the victim was helpful, is being helpful, or is likely to be helpful in the detection, investigation, prosecution, conviction, or sentencing of criminal activity.

LB745 would require agencies to either complete or deny certification requests within 90 business days. It also maintains the discretion of law enforcement agencies to determine whether a victim meets the federal certification criteria for T and U visas.

LB745 maintains the discretion of law enforcement agencies to revoke or disavow the certification at any time after completion if an applicant is no longer compliant with certification criteria.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Carol Blood