

Submitter: Jennifer DeRoss

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB149

Senate Bill 149 would expand the definition of who is eligible to receive state-funded case support that is typically reserved only for refugees - currently, that support is limited to those who meet the federal definition of refugee, which excludes parolees and asylum seekers. It would also enable more organizations to receive funds to case manage, rehouse, and otherwise support newcomer families in our state. Finally, it would allocate funds toward these purposes, which would mean a path to stability for hundreds of newcomer families.

In short, SB 149 helps ensure that no one falls through the cracks during one of the most vulnerable times in their life and it strengthens the systems that make Oregon a welcoming place for all.