

Dear,

Chairs Lieber and Sanchez, Vice Chairs Girod, Gomberg, and Smith, and members of the Committee:

My name is Mesfin Beshir, and I work with Oregon & SW Washington African Community Development Center (OSWWACDC). I'm here to voice my support for **SB 149** and to urge you to fund resettlement services including CBOs for new Oregonians.

Many asylum seekers and refugees need only temporarily shelter, short-term rental assistance, and culturally appropriate case management to stabilize and move forward. Investing in these services now helps prevent future strain on our emergency systems and makes extended support possible for those who need it.

In this tight budget climate, I urge you to support and invest in people who are ready to contribute to our communities—including those who've served alongside the U.S. and now seek safety and opportunity here.

Thank you for your time and consideration.