

Submitter: Chris Eves
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure: HB2933

My name is Chris Eves, Acting Director of Community Ministries with Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon. I work with our Slavic Oregon Social Services Program, a culturally specific program that serves survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault across Oregon State. The recent Russian Ukrainian conflict has led to increased tension and stress in the Slavic community that has compounded preexisting vulnerabilities related to forced migration. The most vulnerable among this subset of the population are the survivors and their children who are seeking safety from physical, psychological, and economic abuse. As you already know, rising inflation has led to higher costs of living for the general population, and a protracted housing crisis that shows no sign of abating. This means that the financial support our program relies on to support survivors does not stretch as far as it used to, which limits our capacity to serve all of the community needs. We rely heavily on this funding to secure emergency housing, legal support, and culturally specific counseling and support services to our clients. Please continue your support of our program, we cannot do it without ODSVS funding.