

Submitter: Allison Montelongo
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Human Services
Measure: SB548

My name is Allison Montelongo and I am currently the principal at Cooper Mountain Elementary School in Beaverton, Oregon. I have served in the Beaverton School District in various capacities over the last 20 years. As such, I have had the great opportunity to work with many foster children throughout my career.

Children who are placed in foster care suffer many obstacles, including but not limited to, moving into the home of strangers at a moment's notice, changing schools, leaving behind friends and family and so much more. Having a piece of luggage to carry their belongings should be the last thing they worry about. However, currently, it is not.

My dear friend adopted three children years ago and was horrified to see them arrive on her doorstep, each with a plastic garbage bag to hold their most precious belongings. The very least we, as a State, can do, is provide a suitable piece of luggage for each and every child in foster care. It is for the aforementioned reasons that I am in full support of SB548.

Thank you, legislators, for your time and attention to this important and urgent matter.

Allison Montelongo
Cooper Mountain Elementary Principal
Foster Child Advocate/Volunteer