| Submitter: | Carmen Lopez |
|---------------|------------------------------------|
| On Behalf Of: | |
| Committee: | Senate Committee On Human Services |
| Measure: | SB548 |

My Name is Carmen M. Lopez and I support SB548 because I care for all the children who are removed from their parents and need to enter the foster care system in Oregon. I am a community advocate who want this change because I have family who work at child welfare, and I know the daily struggles they had when removing a child and having to use plastic bags. I have also heard them talk about the benefits of having a new duffle bag available when they remove a child or a teenager. I heard several stories about how teenagers' self-esteem has improved when providing them a new duffle bag instead of a trash bag. Knowing that something so small, such a duffle bag, can make a big difference in a child's life motivates me to volunteer and advocate for children in foster care.

Carmen Lopez Volunteer/Donor/Advocate