

Submitter: Eleanor Aschoff
On Behalf Of: Project Lemonade
Committee: Senate Committee On Human Services
Measure: SB548

Take a minute to think of what security means to you. Is it your family, friends, your home/shelter, items of clothing, food, stuffed animal, books, music, the consistency of daily life, expectation and routine? Security is defined as something that gives or assures safety, tranquility, certainty, etc.; protection, safeguard. How do you feel when your sense of security is removed? Please take a minute to think about that. What is amazing about security is that it can come in many forms. It can come in the form of a duffel bag for a foster child that is moving from home to home while the chaos of their lives swirl around them out of their control. A duffel bag that keeps their possessions safe and in tack. A duffel bag that provides a sense of dignity and possession in each move. An item (holding other items) that is theirs and is full of the possessions that make them feel safe, consistent, and expectation that those the ground below them may be moving the items they value and love are close by and safe inside the duffel bag.

As a resident an a tax payer in the state of Oregon, I support SB 548 and the state maintaining an inventory of luggage carriers for use of transporting personal effects for foster children. To go a step further I would support that each child be given a duffel bag for all their possessions and for them to have at all times. It is a simple solution that would make a huge difference to the 11,000 plus foster children in the Oregon system. Thank you for listening to my testimony in favor of this bill.