

Submitter: John O Donoghue

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB599

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 599 which would prohibit Oregon landlords both from asking tenants about their legal status and from rejecting an application for housing based on immigration status.

Immigrants are our neighbors and contribute much to the good of our communities. They are hard-working people deserving of our respect. Some immigrants face considerable challenges. This legislation, if passed, will allow them easier access to housing, a fundamental need.

Oregon statutes already protect other categories of people in a way similar to that proposed here for immigrants. It appears to me that protecting one additional group of people will add no significant additional burden on landlords or property owners.

I strongly urge our legislators to support SB599 and pass it into law.