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# A STRONG VOICE

## FOR OREGON'S WORKERS

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To: Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher, and Members of the Committee:

FR: Tan Perkins, Oregon AFL-CIO

RE: Support SB 599

Date: 03/03/2025

My name is Tan Perkins with the Oregon AFL-CIO. We represent over 300,000 workers and their families and strive to be a voice for all workers in the legislative process. I am writing in strong support of SB 599, to ensure that all Oregonians have access to fair housing, regardless of their immigration or citizenship status.

We know and believe that immigrants make communities stronger, and help our state run. Ensuring that folks have a safe and secure place to live is incredibly important. As the federal government takes a direction that differs from our state values, it is our job to ensure that folks are as protected as possible.

Some housing providers do not discriminate on the basis of citizenship or immigration status, but we can not just count on people being good actors. We need to codify our values, and send a message that we are a protective and inclusive state. This policy is very straightforward and would say that a landlord may not inquire about, or disclose with intent to harm, a tenant or applicant's immigration or citizenship status.

The bill is modeled after a provision in local ordinance in the City of Portland that has been in effect for years. This policy would extend that protection statewide, ensuring consistency of protections across all communities.

Workers in this state deserve to feel safe and secure in their own homes. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony and for your service to Oregon communities.

Sincerely,

Tan Perkins, OR AFL-CIO