



Senate Committee on Judiciary
900 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301

March 5th, 2025

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

SETA is a non-profit, public service organization dedicated to renters' rights and interests. We provide free community resources, including our free Tenant Hotline, and we directly serve about 240 renter households every month through combinations of several programs.

SETA strongly urges you to support SB 599 to ensure that all Oregonians have access to fair housing, regardless of their immigration or citizenship status.

SETA works with every member of our community, regardless of any demographic, profession, ideology, or housing status. It is clear to us that immigrant and refugee households experience a higher level of housing discrimination, due to language or other systematic barriers. Searching and securing housing is already challenging due to Oregon's lacking availability - it is nearly impossible for those who face these additional barriers.

The bill is modeled after a provision in [local ordinance](#) in the City of Portland that has been in effect for years, and extends that protection statewide, ensuring consistency of protections across all communities. Oregon is not reinventing the wheel, we would be joining four other states in preventing housing discrimination. (NY, WA, CA, IL)

SB 599 outlines clearly which documents must be allowed, which provides support both to landlords and tenants on how to prepare for an incoming application. SB 599 provides stability to our community members who are at high risk of discrimination and eviction. SB 599 is a common sense bill that will reaffirm the values we hold dear as Oregonians.

SETA strongly urges you to support SB 599.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Jim", is written above a horizontal line that spans the width of the signature area.



Timothy Morris
Executive Director
Springfield Eugene Tenant Association