



**Church World Service Testimony Endorsing  
Senate Bill 149 - Oregon's New Neighbors Coordinated Access Act**

Chair Prozanski, Vice Chair Thatcher, and members of the committee,

[Church World Service](#) urges you to support [SB 149](#) - *Oregon's New Neighbors Coordinated Access Act* to expand the reach of welcoming and reception services that Community Based Organizations and state agencies provide. The legislation will help immigrant Oregonians more readily access the resources they need to thrive.

With the adoption of [Amendment 3](#), the bill would expand newcomers' access to key services, including housing, education, and healthcare. The bill expands the Extended Case Management Program for refugees and other eligible immigrants, enabling Community-based Organizations including resettlement agencies to better support newcomers' integration and long-term success in Oregon.

The additional case management and stabilization services that the bill provides will expand access to health care, employment, and education for people who arrive in Oregon seeking safety and protection. Enhancing service coordination will also alleviate pressure on Oregon's housing supply and emergency shelter system.

At a time of great uncertainty for refugees and immigrants, the bill presents an opportunity for Oregon to demonstrate its leadership as a welcoming state by investing in newcomers and the communities that welcome them.

Church World Service envisions a world in which all people have food, voice, and a safe place to call home. In Oregon, we work with Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon ([EMO](#)) and Sponsors Organized to Assist Refugees ([SOAR](#)) to provide crucial services to arriving refugees and Special Immigrant Visa recipients. The *Oregon's New Neighbors Coordinated Access Act* would strengthen our partners' reach as it works to meet newcomers' basic needs and facilitate their integration into communities across the state.

Church World Service again urges you to support [SB 149](#) - *Oregon's New Neighbors Coordinated Access Act*. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Danilo Zak  
Director of Policy  
Church World Service