

Submitter:	Randy Fishfader
On Behalf Of:	SB 149
Committee:	Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	SB149

To Chair Prozanski, Vice Chair Thatcher and members of the committee,
My name is Randy Fishfader and I am a citizen of Salem, volunteer with Salem for Refugees and the granddaughter of World War 2 refugees on both sides of my family. My own family experience makes me passionate about supporting refugees who flee war and persecution to become contributing members of our communities. We are a nation of refugees and have a humanitarian responsibility to help integrate those who have surmounted rigorous challenges to be given refuge here. SB 149 expands the Extended Case Management program for refugees and other community members who are eligible, which will enable resettlement agencies and other CBO's to provide additional assistance to families who may need a little extra support when they time out of traditional resettlement services. By supporting newly arrived immigrant Oregonian families, refugee Oregonians and having additional case management and stabilization available for those who need it, SB 149 will both coordinate with and alleviate pressure on the mainstream housing and emergency shelter system in Oregon. I urge you to pass this bill and eliminate a potential crisis when there are already so many strains on our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Randy Fishfader