

Submitter: Sharon Franklin
On Behalf Of: Asylum seekers and others
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB149

I strongly urge you to pass SB 149 and in so doing expand the definition of who is eligible to receive state-funded case support to include parolees and asylum seekers. It would also enable more organizations to receive funds to manage and support newcomer families in our state.

We ALL benefit in adding these families who have already been through so much. A little scaffolding for a time means that they have a better chance of creating a strong, healthy life for themselves and their children in this country. I worked with Asylum Seekers at the border in Tijuana for almost 6 years. I know these families. I am in touch with many of them who are now in the United States. We are lucky to have them here. I cannot imagine going through what most of them have experienced. Helping them at the beginning to have a good start is beneficial for everyone. Please make sure this bill passes and that the money is allocated so it can work as intended.

Thank you.