

Submitter: Emily Heilbrun

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB149

I am strongly in favor of SB 149, which would expand the definition of who is eligible to receive state-funded case support that is typically only available to refugees, and not to asylum seekers and people with humanitarian parole. I volunteered with the Refugee Resettlement Coalition of Lane County (RRCLC) for several years. The RRCLC partnered with Catholic Community Services to welcome refugees. (My views in this statement are my own. I do not represent any organization.) Few to no refugees are coming to Oregon now because of the President's decision not to welcome them. We have long had people seeking asylum, and those with humanitarian parole, in our community, and have supported them as best we can. Please pass this bill so that more organizations may receive funds to provide case management, housing, and other support to asylum seekers and those with humanitarian parole.