

Submitter: Vana O'Brien

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB149

To the Members of the Oregon Senate Committee on Judiciary:

I am writing in support of SB149, Oregon's New Neighbors Coordinated Access Act, which I understand will support newly arrived immigrant families in Oregon.

As a clinical social worker, I am aware of the emotional and physical stress on families who must wait for shelter and access to work, medical care and schooling for children. This bill is particularly important in that it intends to reduce the wait time for these families to receive mainstream services.

So often there is service duplication and bureaucratic confusion in the delivery of services. I am impressed with reading this bill at the attention given to coordinating these services and reducing waste and time.

Thank you for thoughtfully considering this important bill. I am proud to think that our state is a leader in kindness, a rare quality in these times.