

## A STRONG VOICE FOR OREGON'S WORKERS

To: Chair Kropf, Vice-Chairs Chotzen and Wallan, and Members of the Committee:

FR: Tan Perkins, Oregon AFL-CIO

RE: Support SB 599A

Date: 04/21/25

I am writing in strong support of SB 599A, which allows for all Oregonians to have access to housing without concern over immigrations or citizenship status. This policy was amended in the Senate, and comes to the House with bi-partisan support. We urge this committee's support and swift passage, to ensure fair housing for all Oregonians.

We know and believe that immigrants make communities stronger, and help our state run. Ensuring that folks have a safe and secure place to live is incredibly important. As the federal government takes a direction that differs from our state values, it is our job to ensure that folks are as protected as possible. Ensuring that working people are protected and kept safe ensures that our state continues to run efficiently.

Although some housing providers already adhere to best practices and do not discriminate on the basis of citizenship or immigration status, passage of the bill ensures that these principles are codified in our state statutes and ensures that bad actors are held accountable.

The bill is modeled after a provision in local ordinance in the City of Portland that has been in effect for years, and extends that protection statewide, ensuring consistency of protections across all communities.

For all of these reasons, we urge your strong support of this bill.

Sincerely,

Tan Perkins, OR AFL-CIO