

Testimony in Support of SB 599 - Fair Housing for All Oregonians

Tuesday, March 4, 2025

Dear Members of the Committee,

I am writing in strong support of Senate Bill 599, which prohibits housing discrimination based on immigration status. My name is Piyawee Ruenjinda and I live in Beaverton. Housing is a fundamental human right, and I believe everyone—regardless of immigration status—should have the right to a safe, stable home without fear of discrimination.

As a sanctuary state, Oregon has always been a place where we treat each other with kindness, compassion, and humanity. SB 599 reflects those values, ensuring that no one is denied housing simply because of their immigration status. By extending these protections statewide, we help create an inclusive community where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

Discrimination in housing based on immigration status harms vulnerable communities and creates unnecessary barriers to stability and opportunity. This bill ensures that landlords cannot ask about or disclose an applicant's immigration status and provides clear guidelines for verifying identity.

Having access to housing is essential for people to build better futures, contribute to their communities, and live with dignity. Supporting SB 599 will help ensure that all Oregonians can live without fear of unfair treatment or exclusion.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I strongly urge you to pass SB 599 and make sure all Oregonians can live with the respect and security they deserve.

Sincerely,

Piyawee Ruenjinda
Beaverton OR 97005