



# Coalition of Communities of Color

March 6, 2025

**To:** Senate Judiciary Committee

**Re:** Support for SB 599, Fair Housing for All Oregonians

Dear Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Alex Riedlinger, and I am the Advocacy Manager at the Coalition of Communities of Color (CCC). I am writing **in strong support of SB 599, to ensure that all Oregonians have access to fair housing**, regardless of their immigration or citizenship status.

CCC is a member-based non-profit that advocates for communities of color to receive equitable resources. By working together with 18 culturally specific member organizations, each with its unique mission, CCC is devoted to coalescing the voices of Oregon's BIPOC communities. Included in our membership and amongst their constituencies are immigrants, refugees, migrants, asylum seekers, and asylees.

We live in a political climate in which non-citizens are criminalized, targeted for deportation, and threatened regardless of legal status. When discrimination becomes a mandate by the federal government, Oregon's state government must take measures to protect the right to housing for all Oregonians.

Oregon has a history of housing segregation and discrimination that has and continues to prevent BIPOC, immigrant, LGBTQ2SIA+, and other communities from having equal access to safe and stable housing. While discrimination in housing is prohibited, state law does not explicitly prevent discrimination based on immigration status.

Communities rely on local governments to prohibit housing discrimination based on immigration status. Where there is an absence of local statutes, only some landlords adopt this as a best practice. Given the precarity facing our immigrant communities, time is of the essence for the legislature to ensure that every Oregonian, in every corner of our state, has the same protections.

Passage of this bill ensures that these principles are codified in state statute and sends a protective and inclusive message to our communities. We urge your strong support of this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to uplift this important issue and for your ongoing support to all of Oregon's communities.

Sincerely,

Alex Riedlinger, Advocacy Manager  
Coalition of Communities of Color