

Dear House Committee on Housing and Human Services,

The written nature of bills may alienate or distract from the very human dimension they are designed to aid or benefit. As a volunteer working for refugee resettlement in Portland with Catholic Charities, I have seen the faces of people who are so happy to be here where they are safe and can now devote attention to building a home and livelihood.

Please consider the merits of this bill since this help may virtually be the only way we Oregonians can touch the brutalized conditions in foreign lands to help offer some hope for those courageous enough to leave. Please keep alive this option so families can come to our land with promise and hopes of fruitful integration.

This bill is not only a monetary package but a symbolic expression of our State's attention beyond our borders and our country's. This outreach helps form our character as inclusive and open and hospitable.

Sincerely,

Michael Buck
Lake Oswego, Oregon 97035