On SB 608

The bill, as written, does not measure up to the severity of the housing crisis felt across the state. Nowhere is that crisis more evident than in the lack of housing opportunities for people with severe mental illness. This impacts costs to our health care system and criminal justice system, as well as being morally unsupportable. The provision in SB 608 that permits for-cause eviction after three written warnings creates an opportunity for abuse, without any recourse. This is bad enough for the average renter, but is catastrophic for anyone with mental illness who has somehow managed to secure housing. It could literally be a death sentence.

https://www.kgw.com/article/news/local/oregon-ranks-worst-in-us-for-mental-health-study-says/283-449141620

I realize that the landlord lobby, and some pro-corporate votes in the senate have made amending this bill very difficult, but I urge you, at least, to strike the '3 warnings' provision from SB 608 immediately. And if you pass this legislation, be prepared to make changes at the soonest opportunity to address the other weakness of SB 608.

Regards

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