

I strongly support HB 2367. We must stop criminalizing homelessness, period. I'm appalled that the Eugene police have still been conducting sweeps of homeless camps during this dangerous pandemic. Instead of harassing people who are desperately trying to survive on the streets, we should be instituting Housing First, which has been proven in other cities to be cheaper, and definitely more moral, than keeping the houseless population on the streets and in and out of the criminal so-called justice system and in and out of the emergency room. Where is our leadership? We act like a third-world country.

We must start funding and building, on both a state and national level, low-income housing -- NOT "affordable" housing, but actual low-income housing. There is a housing emergency in this country that is being ignored because those who legislate are simply not affected by it. But everything starts with housing.

Passing HB 2367 is a prerequisite for all of the issues around the houseless population.