

Please support SB 850 so we have a way to identify and track homeless deaths statewide. Tracking this data enables analysis for making more informed decisions, helps identify trends, gaps, and service needs, and enables more accuracy, efficiency, collaboration, and transparency.

Tracking homeless deaths also provides some humanity and dignity to homeless individuals who often live in horrific and inhumane poverty, with disabilities and declining health, and so often die alone, unnoticed, in anonymity. We can do better than that, and the first step is knowing how many people are dying outside.

Death is inevitable for all of us, yet SB 850 assures the humanity and dignity of acknowledging the lives of our neighbors in the streets and counting each of their deaths, so we have accurate numbers for planning how we can do better in the future.

Please support SB 850. Thank you for your consideration,
Ellen Simpson
625 Jefferson Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301