

Dear Members of the Oregon House Committee on Judiciary, I am writing to urge you to support this bill, HB 2367, and allow it to be voted on by the the full Oregon House of Representatives. As with any human being, unhoused people deserve places where they can rest and sleep without harassment or danger. Any of us could find ourselves unhoused due to only one or two unfortunate circumstances, such as the loss of a job, or due to the incapacity or death of a supportive person in our life such as a family member or close friend, or due to the arising of a mental health crisis. Legal, safe, supervised places to rest and sleep reduce crime. They also reduce the desperation and mental upset that can lead to crime or chronic mental illness. And finally, it is the decent, humane, and human thing to do to help people in need. Thank you for considering this testimony! Sincerely, Ernest and Jane Rimerman