

Submitter: Jessica Harper
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB600

Chair Dembrow and members of the Senate Education Committee.

My name is Jessica Harper and I am the Director of Livability Services with the City of Gresham. The City has been housing and supporting East County Resolutions, the community dispute resolution center that serves Gresham, Wood Village, Fairview, Troutdale, and unincorporated east Multnomah County since 1992. This mediation program provides no cost mediation services, training and facilitation services to the community.

I urge you to support SB 600 to ensure adequate funding for these crucial services. Our most vulnerable populations, like those at risk of losing sustainable housing, need these services. Mediation services have successfully supported sustainable housing for many Oregonians through foreclosure avoidance and eviction prevention work. I am writing with my support of SB 600 which will better serve community dispute resolution centers which in turn strengthen housing stability and foster resilient neighborhoods.

Thank you for your time and consideration.