

Submitter: Toni Wallick

On Behalf Of: Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure: SB2

As you all well know homelessness is a huge issue in the United States. It is an issue that has been ignored for too long and our communities are in dire straits. I have worked with this population for the last 5 years and have never met anyone who wanted to live in the cold and the rain. Granted some of our citizens have a hard time with staying housed mostly because of the lack of good mental health in this country.

Countless other people though are houseless for varying reasons. I like to remind people that most of us are one paycheck or one illness away from homelessness. I strongly believe in the housing first model and that everyone deserves a roof over their heads that is warm and dry. I often wonder how we can call ourselves a great nation when we have allowed this humanitarian crisis to go on for so long. Home Share is a viable option that doesn't involve building or government spending. It can be done quickly and efficiently. If we can make Home Share more enticing monetarily to Oregonians we will undoubtedly have more participants. So please support and rally around this bill for all your fellow citizens.