

Submitter: Nina Allan

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure: SB1076

Dear Oregon Legislators,

As an Emergency Physician in state of Oregon, where the burden of patients boarding in Emergency departments can be overwhelming at times, SB 1076 will only add to this weight. Emergency departments are the sole healthcare for majority of homeless population. It is our responsibility to rule out an emergency condition per emtala, and not be a housing resource. I urge you to find a less costly alternative to provide better access to health care, mental and addiction care, and better access to warmth and food other than emergency departments. Emergency departments are overwhelmed as is, nurses and docs are leaving this profession, 555 spots unfilled in the match, the shortage and access to high quality emergency care will be palpable in the coming years. Do the right thing by actually taking responsibility and not punting it on overburden healthcare system. SMH.