

Submitter: Lora Walker

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure: SB1076

Chair Patterson, Vice Chair Hayden, Committee Members,

I am in support of SB 1076. I have worked with and volunteered with unsheltered people for many years.

I retired from the State of Oregon, Oregon State Hospital. We have all seen the increase of homeless, mentally ill, disabled, and other vulnerable people in our community & elsewhere. We know them as former clientele, patients, friends, children, parents, loved ones. These people are us. Members of our community.

Many group homes that served mentally ill people in Oregon closed 7-8 years ago when the legislature cut funding for those homes. We all see the results of that.

We should all be ashamed. We can do better. We can find solutions. I believe Oregon's hospitals, community agencies, organizations, volunteers could work together to assure a person has the items listed in this proposed bill.

This will take collaboration. People working together to solve these issues.

I am thankful for the people addressing these issues affecting our unsheltered citizens.

Respectfully,

Lora / Lorrie / Walker

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