

Submitter: Eduardo Diaz

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3079

As a long-time Portland resident, I have witnessed the negative impact of homelessness on our communities. There should be no doubt that the youth of today are the future of our cities tomorrow. As a Cuban refugee, I often talked with my friends and family about the intense indoctrination of our government and how they misrepresented youth homelessness in the U.S. Today, I no longer feel proud. The increase in young living on the streets has made me question whether any lies were told at all.

I believe that passing this measure to help decrease youth homelessness in our cities is not only the right thing to do, but it will also inspire cities around the world, including Cuba, where I grew up. Many communities look up to us here in the U.S. as a model, and taking action to address youth homelessness can set a powerful example to follow.