Chair Marsh, Vice-Chairs Anderson and Breese-Iverson, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to strongly oppose HB 2305, a bill that threatens the stability of tenants already living on the edge. I am currently a Public Policy Associate with the Eugene Tenant Alliance, advocating for equitable policies that directly impact marginalized communities. As a renter in Lane County who receives federally subsidized housing assistance, I have personally experienced homelessness due to limited access to resources. Had my homelessness been caused by an eviction, I almost certainly would have lost my housing assistance and remained unhoused for an extended period. For many of us, every month is a struggle to cover basic expenses, leaving little for anything else. The constant fear of eviction, compounded by these financial challenges, is overwhelming.

Eviction doesn't just take away a home—it can follow a person for an average of 7 years, making it nearly impossible to secure housing again. For many, it traps them in a cycle of instability, increasing the risk of homelessness. This bill also increases the likelihood that vulnerable tenants will be further exploited by landlords, as it creates more opportunities for hardship without adequate protections in place.

HB 2305 would deepen the housing crisis by pushing those already burdened into even more precarious situations. Housing stability is a human right, and policies should focus on protecting tenants, not exacerbating their struggles. This is a time when we must come together to support solutions to the housing crisis, not take backward steps.

I urge you to vote against this bill and work toward real solutions to support struggling Oregonians. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Adriana Grant Public Policy Associate Eugene Tenant Alliance