



A STRONG VOICE FOR OREGON'S WORKERS

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

FR: Tan Perkins, OR AFL-CIO

RE: Testimony in Opposition of Hb 2305

February 17th

Chair Marsh, Vice-Chairs Anderson and Breese-Iverson, and Members of the Committee. For the record my name is Tan Perkins with the Oregon AFL-CIO, the statewide federation of labor unions representing over 300,000 working people in Oregon and a voice for all workers in the legislative process.

I urge your opposition to HB 2305, which would destabilize tenants and put them at risk of eviction and displacement into an expensive housing market with low vacancy rates, increasing the risk of homelessness.

When union members and workers have nowhere to live, are faced with unjust evictions, and can't keep up with rent prices, we know there is a problem. Ensuring just housing options is one of the most important things that we can do for workers' wellbeing, having a safe and stable home ensures better overall health and safety.

HB 2305 would directly harm workers' ability to thrive. The bill would allow for evictions without the chance to fix violations. We know that landlords already have many tools to evict tenants for serious violations as needed, and this bill is seeking to put tenants in a much more precarious position with even fewer remedies.

In Oregon we are consistently talking about the housing and homeless crisis, we should be seeking solutions not more policy that would lead to increased displacement. I urge you to **vote against HB 2305** and hope you will focus on the collective and critically important work to increase housing supply, support affordable housing solutions, support eviction prevention and rent assistance solutions, and increased access to supportive services and shelter.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony and your service to Oregon communities.

Sincerely,

Tan Perkins, Oregon AFL-CIO