

Submitter: Bonnie Chasteen
On Behalf Of: Myself and my consumers
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2305
Testimony Template:

Dear Chair Marsh, Vice Chairs Anderson and Breese-Iverson, and Committee Members,

I am writing in opposition to HB 2305, the three-strikes bill, before the House Committee on Housing and Homelessness.

[Describe who you are, the work you do, and the population you serve].

My experience working with vulnerable communities in Oregon gives me concern that this bill will unduly impact disabled tenants, tenants from marginalized communities, and tenants experiencing financial hardship. These groups are already over-policed by landlords, and establishing stable housing is a challenge for these groups.

This bill will make it easier for landlords to evict tenants for minor infractions. Although this is not the specific goal of the Bill's proponents, its overly broad nature will make it easy for bad actors to abuse it.

I sincerely urge you to protect Oregon's most vulnerable tenants by voting against HB 2305. You can aid those of us on the front lines of Oregon's housing crisis by focusing efforts on legislation that will make housing more available and more equitable for these groups.

As Housing Navigator for Linn/Benton/Lincoln Counties, I see and work with folks everyday that could have evaded becoming unhoused if they had someone to work with them more. Please do not strip away the few opportunities they have to work out any issues before facing becoming unhoused. Please support our elders, disabled, minorities, veterans and families by opposing this bill and in doing so save the state money by not creating more needs for those in dire situations.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my testimony and for your service to our communities.

Sincerely,
Bonnie Chasteen
Housing Navigator for Linn/Benton/Lincoln Counties
Oregon Cascades West Council of Government

