

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.

I am an Occupancy Specialist with Central City Concern. Primarily, I help guide folks through the low-income housing application process. I am in a position which requires seeing these issues both as an advocate of the applicant and as an employee adjacent to the challenges of property management. Considering the already unacceptable amount of people that are currently unhoused, we should not be creating new pathways for people to end up on the street. If anything, we should be working to lower rents and create safeguards to prevent tenants from getting overwhelmed. A series of unrelated infractions should not be cause for eviction.

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. Tenants who are dangerous or endlessly disruptive are one thing, a family fallen on hard times is another.

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.

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

Sincerely,
John Drislane
Occupancy & Compliance Specialist
Central City Concern