

Submitter: LaTasha Beal

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2305

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.

My name is LaTasha Beal, a Realtor in the portland metro area. I believe our issues with homelessness are huge and this bill will increase the homelessness in our communities, we have many families fighting homelessness and the cost to rent is increasing. How can we protect those who are actively working to support their families but still coming up short every month, this is a real concern for many and we need legislation to help protect them. Being evicted should not be based on frivolity it is a serious matter to be evicted and there should be no legislation to allow it to be viewed in any other way.

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.

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

Sincerely,

LaTasha Beal