

Testimony in Opposition to HB 2305

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 Miguel G. Moseler, and my focus is on helping low-income individuals have a voice in state and county policies. My work involves connecting people with resources and advocating for policies that protect their rights and well-being.

My experience working with vulnerable communities in Oregon gives me deep concern that this bill will disproportionately impact disabled tenants, tenants from marginalized communities, and tenants experiencing financial hardship-groups that are already over-policed by landlords. Establishing stable housing is already a challenge for these individuals, and this bill would only worsen that struggle.

HB 2305 will make it easier for landlords to evict tenants for minor infractions. While this may not be the stated intent of the bill, its overly broad language creates a loophole for bad actors to abuse it, further destabilizing communities. This bill does not serve the interests of Oregon's citizens; rather, it overwhelmingly benefits landlords and corporate property owners who will use it to remove individuals and families in order to increase their profits.

Additionally, this bill will exacerbate housing discrimination and reinforce redlining practices-effectively keeping low-income individuals and those with mental health challenges out of desirable areas while favoring wealthier tenants. Rather than protecting tenants, it will deepen housing insecurity, push vulnerable populations further into poverty, and widen the gap between the

wealthy and the struggling.

Beyond housing instability, this bill will lead to an increase in homelessness and put more strain on shelters, including those that house people with companion animals. The impact of HB 2305 extends beyond just human lives-it will increase pressure on local animal shelters and humane societies, which will be forced to absorb the costs of displaced pets and service animals. This ripple effect will drive up expenses for animal services, increasing financial burdens on local governments.

Furthermore, the economic consequences of this bill will be devastating. The forced displacement of individuals and families will disrupt local businesses, raise social service costs, and increase the need for emergency housing programs. The three-strikes eviction model will lead to greater economic loss, as communities struggle with the rising cost of social services and housing assistance. Every level of our local and state economy will feel the financial strain caused by this bill.

I urge you to vote against HB 2305 and instead focus on legislation that promotes stable, fair, and equitable housing opportunities for all Oregonians. We need policies that protect tenants, families, and companion animals-not corporate profits at the expense of our communities.

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

Sincerely,

Miguel G. Moseler