

Submitter: Jordan Palmer

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2305

I managed a housing program in Portland for some time, and I feel confident that if passed, HB 2305 will exacerbate the struggles that so many people are experiencing in finding, acquiring, and maintaining stable housing. This is particularly likely among people who have obtained housing after experiencing homeless; these are often people who are unaccustomed to the burdens and responsibilities of tenancy and thus are more likely to make mistakes while they are learning how to navigate these processes. In my professional capacity, I have seen many landlords attempt to circumvent the law to terminate leases and evict tenants at the first sign of inconvenience to the landlord. While homelessness is an incredibly complex and pervasive social issue, I feel that giving increased power to profit-motivated landlords will do nothing more than deepen the housing crisis in Oregon and expose the most vulnerable Oregonians to great risk. We should be making housing more accessible to those in need, not giving landlords more tools for exploitation.