

Submitter: Karina Corona

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.

I am the Next Steps Aftercare Case Manager at Jackson Street Youth Services and work with young adults (18-24) upon exiting our Transitional Living Program. The young adults who enter our program are or have experienced homelessness in their young lives and require extra support and advocacy to reduce barriers into safe and stable housing. My job is to work with these young adults to secure and/or maintain safe and stable housing by planning, skill building, and informing them of their rights. Our vulnerable young adults are not advocated for properly and need the skills, supports, and policies that support their growth.

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,  
Karina Corona