

Submitter: Logan Simpson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2305

Hello there, my name is Logan Simpson. I work with Jackson Street Youth Services as a Case Manager in the Next Steps Transitional Living Program. I have worked in the past with Oregon Alliance to encourage the increase in funding for organizations based on preventing, resolving, and harm-reducing the experience of homelessness for young people in the state of Oregon.

It is my firm belief that this bill will hinder Oregon's process and progress to reduce the amount of people who remain unhoused and, further, will contribute to economic strain on our communities.

We who have lived in Oregon for years or our entire lives are very familiar with unhoused populations and are also familiar with what happens when funding is cut or barriers are created: more people sleep on the streets, more people struggle to meet their basic needs, and less of our population thrives.

This bill will create an unnecessary barrier for Oregon's citizens and is not necessary given the protections that already exist for landlords and property owners in the state, where-in tenants can be evicted for outrageous behavior and a frequent or consistent failure to uphold one's responsibilities as per their lease.

I work with, and was once within, a population of young adults who have gone through tremendous amounts of trauma, have never had a proper role model for financial security or responsibility, haven't had the opportunity to be still and align their priorities, resources, values, schedules, etc. My clients make mistakes, as every human does. As I have, and so has the person who reads this testimony. This bill will put folks into positions where they, again, cannot align their priorities, resources, values, and schedules because they no longer have a home to do it in. On top of this they would have a negative rental reference and eviction to make it exponentially harder for them to regain housing.

This bill will hurt Oregonians if it passes. Thank you for your time.