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# A STRONG VOICE FOR OREGON'S WORKERS

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To: Chair Kropf, Vice-Chairs Chotzen and Wallen, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary

FR: Tan Perkins, Oregon AFL-CIO

RE: Support HB 3194

Date: 02/27/2025

My name is Tan Perkins with the Oregon AFL-CIO, we represent over 300,000 workers and strive to be a voice for all workers in the legislative process. I am writing to express our strong support for HB 3194, a bill that will help protect workers from unsafe and illegal housing conditions. There are many Oregon workers who are forced to live in deeply troubling situations, including makeshift shelters made of tarps and plywood, no access to running water or bathrooms, and more.

This policy would close a loophole that has allowed distracted landowners who lease their land to unregistered housing providers. It would additionally require property owners to make reasonable steps to ensure that any tenants are legally registered and compliant with state rules and labor housing registration.

Currently workers have to prove “ongoing harm” which is not possible for seasonal workers who may spend months at a location but not years. If a worker brings a claim under CORA, the maximum total fine today is just \$500—which we know is not high enough to deter bad behavior. HB 3194 increases the penalty to \$2,000 per violation, in line with what the Bureau of Labor and Industries can already enforce.

HB 3194 is a common-sense solution to a serious problem. It protects workers, ensures landowners take responsibility for their property, and strengthens outdated laws.

I urge you to support HB 3194. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Tan Perkins, Oregon AFL-CIO