

Culain Lumpkin

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Portland, Oregon

My name is Culain Lumpkin, and I live in the Rosemont Oxford House in Chapter 3. I am writing to express my strong opposition to HB 2239, which would prioritize the NARR certification process over the well-established Oxford House, Inc. (OHI) model. As someone who has experienced firsthand the positive impact of the Oxford House model, I believe it is essential that OHI certification be recognized equally alongside NARR certification. Oxford Houses have provided safe, supportive, and self-governing recovery environments for over 50 years, helping countless individuals, including myself, achieve long-term sobriety and stability. The self-run and self-supported structure of Oxford Houses fosters accountability, leadership, and personal growth — key elements that played a crucial role in my recovery journey.

Dismissing Oxford House certification as secondary to NARR's would be a disservice to the recovery community in Oregon. Oxford Houses make up the majority of recovery residences in our state and have demonstrated proven success in supporting individuals seeking a sober lifestyle. Prioritizing one model over the other risks diminishing public confidence in the effectiveness of Oxford Houses, potentially limiting referrals and financial support for those who rely on them. I urge you to amend HB 2239 to recognize both OHI and NARR as co-certifying organizations to ensure Oregon continues to provide diverse, effective recovery options for those in need.

Sincerely,

Culain Lumpkin