



April 3, 2025

Good afternoon Co-chairs Campos and Valderrama, members of the committee on the subcommittee on Human Services,

My name is Connor Alsop, and I am a DSCS at the Stabilization and Crisis Unit. I've been at SACU for 1 year and I joined this field because providing care for at risk individuals is essential for keeping them and the public safe.

I write today in opposition to the proposed budget for the Oregon Department of Human Services as presented with a decrease in funding and the transition from state operated homes to private providers in the second year of the biennium. SACU runs crisis homes, and private providers run long-term homes. Oregon cannot afford to lose any crisis beds.

Carrying for people with disabilities, behavioral issues and mental health problems is essential and costly. I came from private skills training and the lack of adequate placements in the community and the training of those in private settings is both inadequate and lacking proper oversight.

The idea of cutting and changing SACU into a six-month, or less, program is dangerous.

Severely at-risk individuals will end up on the street being both a risk to themselves and their communities. Making the choice to Support budget cuts to SACU is making the choice to leave these people who cannot get into a program like SACU to their families who are not prepared to support them to leave them to the hospitals that are already crowded and more expensive or leaving them to the streets to die please have compassion to think about what you would want for them. If this was your child, your sibling, your friend and make the right choice.

We urge this committee to carefully consider the impacts this has on the individuals served. Any funding cuts without a clear plan about how individuals will get served in other settings puts their lives at risk. As a direct care worker, this proposed budget is reckless and has lacked clear communication to all parties involved.

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