



April 3, 2025

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

My name is Crystal Ecker and I am a Direct Support Crisis Specialist at the Stabilization and Crisis Unit. I've been at SACU for almost 5 years and joined the workforce to support my family and become a contributing member in my community..

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.

It's of the utmost importance that SACU remains open at 100% because we provide services to vulnerable populations and keep them safe who otherwise are not safe in normal settings.

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.

Crystal Ecker  
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