



April 1, 2025

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

My name is Orion Babauta and I am a DSCS at the Stabilization and Crisis Unit. I've been at SACU for 1 year and joined the workforce because I enjoy working with the individuals, and I make a difference in their lives. In order to maintain a good quality of life and to ensure safety in our community, we should be able to support our individuals with the tools that only state services can provide.

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.

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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