

Submitter: LESLIE EDELBLUTE

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure: SB1076

Knowing from personal testimony from multiple medical providers and workers plus experience visiting the ER's of two different local hospitals- this bill will be detrimental to the care of patients who are seeking true medical assistance. The hallways and rooms are already full due to underlying medical issues, staffing shortages and lack of space. Housing the homeless overnight when they do not necessarily need hospitalization will only overload the system even more. I know that those needing to remain hospitalized do indeed get to stay in overnight.

There are already not open shelters to release these homeless patients to and not enough staff to continue to spend massive time locating it when their job is to be assisting those with medical needs in the emergency room.

This is an unfunded bill that doesn't provide properly for what it is asking for. Please reconsider this bill and the ramifications it will lead to. If one doesn't think the word will get out that there is a free place to stay overnight, then we are kidding ourselves. Before implementing this kind of legislation- go speak to the people who work in, have been patients in, or sat with loved ones for hours upon hours waiting in Oregon's emergency rooms. This is not a sustainable bill, in fact there could easily be medical personnel that moves on because of the setting that this will cause in their already challenging healthcare work world.