



SVDP SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VETERAN FAMILIES

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Dear Chair March, Vice Chairs Anderson and Breese-Iverson, and Committee Members,

I am writing in opposition to HB 2305, the three-strike bill, before the house committee on housing and homelessness.

My name is Cari Hansen. I am a single mother who works for Support Services for Veteran Families at St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County. I assist our homeless veterans in finding safe, stable, and secure housing in Lane County. I also work with veterans who are at risk of losing their housing. Many times these families are struggling with severe poverty, disabilities, medical and mental issues, and a plethora of other obstacles that make it difficult for a large population to pay basic bills such as rent, electricity, or phone. I myself sometimes struggle to make my rent on time due to many reasons and including the fact that sometimes my pay day falls after the date the rent is due and when your living pay check to pay check that is just how it goes! It always is paid within a few days! I see veterans and others in our community struggle month to month to pay their rent and other bills. Life is hard enough, so why make these people struggle more and risk making their situations even worse!

My experience working with vulnerable communities in Oregon gives me HUGE concern that this bill will unduly impact disabled tenants, tenants from marginalized communities, and tenants experiencing financial hardship. These groups are already over-policed by landlords, and establishing stable housing is a challenge for these groups.

This bill will make it easier for landlords to evict tenants for minor infractions. Although this is not the specific goal of the Bill's proponents, its overly broad nature will make it easy for bad actors to abuse it.

I sincerely urge you to protect Oregon's most vulnerable tenants by voting against HB 2305!!! You can aid those of us on the front lines of Oregon's housing crisis by focusing efforts on legislation that will make housing more available and more equitable for these groups.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my testimony and for your service to our communities.

Respectfully,


Cari Hansen

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