

Submitter: Lee Fehrenbacher
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4120

My name is Lee Fehrenbacher, and I am a housing provider responsible for more than 50 rental homes in the Portland MSA. I am writing to urge your support for HB 4120, legislation that allows housing providers to adopt nonsmoking policies in multifamily housing in a clear, reasonable, and transparent way.

Secondhand smoke poses real health and safety risks in multifamily housing. Smoke travels through shared walls and ventilation systems, affecting residents who did not choose to be exposed. HB 4120 provides a balanced solution that improves public health while respecting existing leases and requiring appropriate notice.

HB 4120 also helps create a more consistent standard of protection for renters. Properties that receive HUD funding are already required to be smoke-free, while market-rate renters do not receive the same safeguard. This bill helps correct that imbalance without imposing a mandate.

By allowing housing providers to respond to resident concerns, reduce fire risk, and protect onsite staff, HB 4120 supports healthier communities and long-term housing stability.

I respectfully urge you to support HB 4120.