

Members of the Senate Committee on Health Care -

I am writing to show support of Senate Bill 850 which would require reports of death to indicate the housing status of the decedent. I am surprised this is not already required. It is vital that officials have proper data so that they can make informed decisions, identify trends, needs and holes in services. Good data provides for transparency and would result in better services. It also allows officials to track deaths and to determine if some people are dying or being policed at greater numbers than others. Comprehensive data on crimes, services, and deaths results in better collaborations with other agencies that serve different segments of Salem's population. Finally, this will provide some dignity and acknowledgment.

Please support SB 850