

Submitter: Saff Addams
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2305

My name is Saff Addams, and I'm writing on behalf of myself and my community to urge you to oppose HB 2305.

Housing has been so precarious here in the last few years, especially for marginalized communities who are the most at risk. With increased difficulty in finding work or battles with health care coverage, so many of my friends and family have lost their housing or dealt with evictions in the last year. With the current rates of houselessness in Oregon, we need better protections for tenants rights and policies that keep people housed to begin with, not making it easier for landlords to displace those most at risk. It's more beneficial for everyone to protect people from ending up on the streets to begin with than to try and help get them off the streets again after the fact, especially when there's already so much need there that needs to be addressed. Rather than making it easier for more people to be displaced and increasing the struggle in getting people re-housed, we can instead protect them before the worst happens.

With ever increasing rent here, it keeps getting harder and harder for most of us to keep a roof over our heads. The solution won't come in making it easier for landlords to make out lives even harder. Especially when the communities that will be the most impacted and harmed by this decision are the ones who already have endless battles to face in finding work, healthcare, housing, and access to life saving resources in general from the systemic oppressions stacked against them. It would be cruel to give landlords even more loopholes to use to exploit marginalized Oregonians who are already facing so much hardship and struggling to survive.

We need more beneficial solutions to the current housing crisis. Those solutions come from getting and keeping people off of the streets, not making it easier for them to end up there to begin with. Please protect Oregonians and vote against HB 2305 and continue to take steps in the right direction towards ending houselessness through creating more housing, creating affordable housing solutions, preventing evictions and increasing supportive services for those already unhoused.

Thank you,
Saff Addams