



Disability
Rights
Oregon

TO: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness
FROM: Disability Rights Oregon
DATE: February 17, 2023
RE: HB 2305 - Oppose

Chair Marsh, Vice-Chairs Anderson and Breese-Iverson, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Ben Gurewitz, I am writing on behalf of Disability Rights Oregon to urge your opposition to HB 2305, which would destabilize tenants and put them at risk of eviction and displacement in an already brutal housing market.

HB 2305 would undermine tenant stability and increase displacement. It would open up the statutes to create broad loopholes that landlords could exploit to increase evictions. These loopholes will lead to greater possibilities of discriminatory enforcement and fair housing violations.

Landlords already have myriad tools to evict tenants for lease violations and for repeated lease violations, often with little notice. When evictions happen in this housing market, they lead to homelessness. We must do all we can to prevent unfair displacement.

This is a time when we must come together to support solutions to the housing crisis, not backward steps. I urge you to **vote against HB 2305** and hope you will focus on the collective and critically important work to increase housing supply, support preservation and affordable housing solutions, support eviction prevention and rent assistance solutions, and increased access to supportive services and shelter.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony and your service to Oregon communities.

About Disability Rights Oregon

Since 1977 Disability Rights Oregon has been the State's Protection and Advocacy System.¹ We are authorized by Congress to protect, advocate, and enforce the rights of people with disabilities under the U.S. Constitution and Federal and State laws, investigate abuse and neglect of people with disabilities, and "pursue administrative,

¹ See ORS 192.517.

legal, and other appropriate remedies".² We are also mandated to "educate policymakers" on matters related to people with disabilities.³

If you have any questions regarding DRO's position on this legislation, please call Ben Gurewitz 971-806-7908 or email her at bgurewitz@droregon.org.

² See 42 U.S.C. § 15041 et seq; 42 U.S.C. § 10801 et seq.

³ See 42 U.S. Code § 15043(a)(2)(L).