

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

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

I am writing in opposition to HB 2305, the three-strikes bill, before the House Committee on Housing and Homelessness.

I am an employee of Northeast Oregon Housing Authority serving low income individuals and families across Baker, Grant, Union and Wallowa counties in eastern Oregon.

Our agency provides subsidized housing as well as rental assistance to HUD voucher participants with independent landlords which allows me to have the dual perspective of residents and landlord obstacles/barriers. While I understand and empathize with landlords (my own agency and the independent landlords in our rural areas) need to hold tenants accountable for breaking their contractual obligations in leases be they noise violations and non payment of rent, this bill may allow landlords and property managers to evict tenants for minor infractions and only create more homeless individuals and families in our communities. I do not agree with all the verbiage of this bill and feel that we can do better for the tenants and landlords alike.

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.