

To the Honorable members of the House Committee on Health Care and Housing,
We are asking for your support of HB 3063.

We have 2 adult sons living with severe and persistent mental illness. The lack of appropriate housing here in Central Oregon is an extreme burden on each of them and an unnecessary obstacle in their recovery. Our oldest resides in small mobile home 30 miles away on a property that was supposed to be the location of our retirement place. He pays us rent but his illness does not allow him to drive and he is totally dependent on my travelling there to bring him in for weekly doctor, therapy, and medication appointments. He does his necessary grocery shopping at these times also. The rest of the time he is isolated which is not helping his recovery. He would like to do more, but there is just no place available for him to move closer. Our younger son has been living in a small motel room at an astronomical rate for over 3 months. He is extremely anxious about his situation and has severe anxiety attacks almost daily. We have to spend hours on the phone with him every day and bring him to stay with us 2 or 3 times a week. He has been able to accumulate a small savings that would pay for start up costs of an apartment, but there is absolutely nothing available for him. The County will not help him find housing until this savings is depleted. I know that stable housing would relieve much of his anxiety and he could be a more productive citizen.

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