

Rosenberg Corey

From: shamus cooke <shamuscooke@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 05, 2017 4:00 PM
To: SHS Exhibits
Subject: HB 2004 testimony

Hello,

My name is Shamus Cooke, I'm a state worker at the child abuse hotline. I support HB 2004 because I am a renter, and about a quarter of the call we receive at the hotline are housing related.

We get calls about homeless families, about housing-insecure families, about recently-evicted families living in cars, or tents; we get calls from Sheriff departments that call us mid-eviction, to notify us that they are evicting a family into the streets.

At the child abuse hotline we tell these callers "call 2-1-1"

We have no resources for them. Neither does 211, minus shelters that are often full and waiting lists that can take years.

How do we 'fix' our homeless crisis if re-entry into rental housing is impossibly expensive ?

In Multnomah County the libraries gave out free copies of the book 'Evicted', where Matthew Desmond explains that evictions are not the outcome of poverty, but the CAUSE.

HB 2004 costs the state ZERO dollars, and will save thousands of families from poverty and homelessness. How this bill is remotely controversial boggles the mind.

Nearly half of the state are renters, and there is a housing crisis in the tri-county area, in Salem, Corvallis, Eugene, Medford, Ashland, Bend, The Dalles, and areas across the coast.

Renters matter too.

Please help the broader population restore some faith in state government.

Sincerely,

Shamus Cooke