

My name is Mark Bilton-Smith and I reside in Bend, Oregon. I'm submitting this testimony to urge your support for SB 763.

Six months ago, my 26-year-old daughter, who lives with mental illness and substance use disorder, relapsed. After we made several attempts to help her, she determined that she would rather live on the streets.

On several occasions she would visit the ER at Saint Charles Hospital and would be put on a temporary hold due to her extreme manic and mental conditions. After her 24-hour or 72- hour hold she was released back onto the street, and the same process would start all over again.

Finally, we worked with her local case worker and got a court commitment. If it were not for her court commitment, or daughter would have kept getting released, as she continually stated that she was not in danger of causing harm to herself or others. If it were not for her court commitment she would most likely still be homeless.

After going through a treatment program and Sage View, then a Telecare housing program, she got stabilized and is now out on her own again supporting herself, and doing well.