

To: Chair Rep. Nathanson,  
Vice-Chairs Rep. Findley and Rep. Marsh  
and members of the Committee  
From: Anne Nesse, Director [http://  
SustainableEconomiesNW.com](http://SustainableEconomiesNW.com)



I am testifying today in favor of HB 3349 as an emergency, and sustainability measure. And while I agree with all the other positive testimony for progressive taxation, as presented, I have something substantial to add.

As you know, Oregon has been identified as having the 2nd highest number of unsheltered, homeless people, in the nation. A number that is so staggering, when you consider, how many people, and children may be living on Oregon's streets, and in their vehicles, that we can't even count. This number of people is rising, and it is not sustainable to continue placing this problem as a partial priority of funds.

As a spokesperson for sustainability, I would like to suggest that an amendment be added to this Bill that more funds, or the entirety of the funds, earned from this Law, could go towards funding minimal homes (apartments), or shared dwellings for identified homeless people and families throughout the state.

I believe that the people of Oregon, with you as their representatives, could make considerable progress towards the laudable goal of ending homelessness by 2020. And that this goal should be the first priority of the funds earned from HB3349.

We can solve this problem, as we have several models throughout the US. And we can solve this problem in a more affordable, and sustainable manner, than we are currently attempting to do.

Thank you for serving on this committee and hearing our testimony,  
Anne Nesse