

From: [Stephen Przybylinski](#)
To: [Exhibits SHOUS](#); [Sen Fagan](#); [Sen Golden](#); [Sen MonnesAnderson](#); [Sen Knopp](#); [Sen Heard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 2916
Date: Tuesday, May 14, 2019 2:03:52 PM

Dear Committee Members,

Please find this statement of support kindly. My name is Stephen Przybylinski. I am a doctoral researcher who has been working with Portland's self-organized houseless communities for a handful of years. Last year I spent the year working with four groups- Right 2 Dream, Hazelnut Grove, Dignity Village, Kenton Women's Village, and was watching as Agape Village sprang to life. I cannot stress enough how important these transitional accommodations are not only for the people residing within them. But I have also come to see how the housed community has benefited from these villages. I witnessed countless neighbors of the aforementioned villages attend village assembly meetings, speak with individuals experiencing houselessness about their lives, and offer their support in many different ways. The housed community is learning more about the realities of houselessness through village relationships, how these living spaces are not playgrounds for children. The same cannot be said for the shelter systems which effectively deny *some* of the houseless population the ability to live a dignified life as they struggle through houselessness. The larger network of support behind houseless communities in many of Oregon's cities is capable of continuing the village movement as these modes of alternative shelter expand as options for Oregon.

Please support this bill.

Thank you,

Stephen Przybylinski



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