

Our Esteemed Legislators,

Thank you for all of your work and support in caring about your constituents and the hardships faced by Oregonians around housing, healthcare, mental health and disaster recovery. We are grateful for the pathways you've opened for the community to let our voices be heard.

My name is Kyle Kearns and I have worked in public service and have volunteered personally with organizations throughout the state in Southern Oregon and now in the Mid-Willamette Valley. I have seen firsthand the issues our current policies towards houseless persons have created and have been involved in the creation of some of these poor policies at the local government level. Having reevaluated my own experiences **I am asking that you support HB 2367 with an affirmative vote.**

I've worked in community development for years and have seen the direct result of past policies only exacerbate the issues rather than aid them. The criminalization of houseless persons further expands government cost that can't be recouped, creates socioeconomic hurdles for those who are least advantaged and further increases racial and social inequalities. Further, the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court has ruled that punishment for resting in public places, when nowhere else is available, is an infringement of one's 8<sup>th</sup> Amendment right protected by the US Constitution. **HB2367 will create consistency throughout the State on how to guarantee one's Constitutional rights.**

Thank you for your service to Oregonians for your care for the well-being of everyone. I look forward to seeing this bill become law.

Sincerely,

Kyle Kearns