

Submitter: Cristina Delgado

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB2001

2/14/2023

RE: In support of HB 2001

Chair Dexter, Vice-Chairs Gamba and Helfrich, and Members of the Committee, My name is Cristina and I live in Beaverton. I am submitting testimony in favor of HB 2001 to help people avoid homelessness and give more people who are living unsheltered the opportunity for safe and stable housing.

As a social service provider in Washington County for over 15 years, I have seen the struggles that community members face when it comes to housing. Many people have

limited options when it comes to housing resources because there are language and immigration status barriers, just to mention a few obstacles. Indigenous communities and recent immigrants are vulnerable to facing housing injustices by landlords or by the

housing system in general because people may or may not know how to assert their rights.

I still remember the stress and fear in people's faces when they approached me for help

when receiving an eviction notice. Due to the urgency of the situation the family and I would spend hours walking from one place to another looking for rent assistance or a place for the person to stay. Sometimes we were successful in finding some sort of support, resource, or a referral, but in many other situations people had to sleep on the

streets and that was difficult to experience.

In all the listening sessions I have attended in Washington County in the past 15 years,

the housing topic is always a priority for the community. Things need to change, and people need to be given the opportunity to flourish in a community that offers equitable

housing options and opportunities for the most vulnerable in our communities.

Thank you for hearing this important bill and for considering my testimony. I hope you will listen to people like me and vote yes on HB 2001.

Sincerely,

Cristina