



April 26, 2023

Co-Chairs Frederick and McLain
Co-Vice-Chairs Boquist and Boshart-Davis
Joint Committee on Transportation
900 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs Frederick and McLain, Co-Vice-Chairs Boquist and Boshart-Davis, and Members of the Joint Committee:

The Springfield Eugene Tenant Association asks for your support and vigilance of House Bill 3556 with the -2 amendment, which provides a balanced approach to improving the current law with respect to the towing of abandoned RV vehicles. The Dash 2 amendments provide a balanced approach, taking into account:

- The critically important need for adequate notice and due process protections to ensure that RVs are not towed if they are being used as shelter and are not hazards;
- The need to assist local governments with expedited removal of abandoned RVs that are destroyed or are hazards; and
- The need for assistance with the expense of dismantling RVs that are abandoned.

In the midst of an extreme housing crisis, when Oregon has some of the highest rents and lowest vacancy rates in the nation, more and more Oregonians have no choice but to live in RVs as a last resort before experiencing unsheltered homelessness. This is particularly true in areas recently impacted by the devastating Labor Day 2020 wildfires, when much of the affordable housing stock in the community was destroyed. RV residents are some of our state's most vulnerable citizens, who face barriers to other forms of housing.

As a service provider that runs a free tenant hotline that primarily supports low-income callers, we at SETA understand the importance of exploring and protecting alternative outcomes of homelessness.

We recognize the need to support local jurisdictions by providing for expedited removal of abandoned vehicles that are a hazard or have been destroyed, and by providing a fund to offset the cost of dismantling. We also want to be cautious about not expediting the removal of someones home, storage, and often last opportunity before having no shelter.



We can support the Dash 2 amendment to this bill because of the balance it strikes. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony and your service to Oregon communities

Sincerely,

Timothy Morris

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tim".

Executive Director
Springfield Eugene Tenant Association.