

House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for HB 2239

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing on behalf of West Coast Sober Housing in strong support of HB 2239, which prioritizes funding for National Alliance for Recovery Residences (NARR)-accredited recovery residences and Oxford Houses. This legislation is a critical step in ensuring that individuals in recovery have access to safe, ethical, and high-quality housing as they rebuild their lives.

As an organization dedicated to providing structured and supportive sober living environments, we understand firsthand the importance of accountability and oversight in recovery housing. NARR accreditation is the gold standard in the field, ensuring that recovery residences operate under the highest ethical standards and adhere to rigorous safety guidelines. By requiring homes to meet NARR's core principles—health, safety, ethical operations, and peer support—this accreditation effectively weeds out “bad actors” who might exploit vulnerable individuals seeking recovery or unscrupulous and opportunistic out of state sober home operators.

Unfortunately, the absence of clear regulations in the recovery housing sector has allowed substandard facilities to proliferate, jeopardizing both the well-being of residents and the integrity of the recovery community. HB 2239 is a necessary safeguard against these issues, ensuring that public funds are allocated only to programs that prioritize resident safety, accountability, and long-term success in recovery.

By passing this bill, the Oregon Legislature will help establish a sustainable, ethical recovery housing model that fosters personal growth, community engagement, and lasting sobriety. We urge you to support HB 2239 and stand with the individuals and families who depend on safe, high-quality recovery housing to rebuild their lives.

Thank you for your time and commitment to improving behavioral health care in Oregon. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



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