

Timothy Friend CRMII
Tfriend@grantspassrecovery.com
Grants Pass, OR

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Bill HB 2239. As a recovering addict, I can personally attest to the life-changing impact that Oxford Houses have had on my journey to sobriety. The certification process and standards upheld by Oxford Houses Incorporated are every bit as vital and credible as those recognized by NARR, and they deserve to be held on equal footing. Oxford Houses provide a structured, supportive environment that fosters accountability, personal responsibility, and community — key components in the long-term recovery process. Stripping these houses of their standing or making it harder for them to operate will only create more barriers for those fighting for their lives and working towards sobriety.

My story is living proof of what Oxford Houses can accomplish. At my lowest point, addiction consumed every part of my life — I was isolated, hopeless, and unable to see a future beyond the next high. But Oxford houses gave me a safe place to rebuild, surrounded by others who understood my struggle and held me accountable. It wasn't just a roof over my head — it was a foundation for change. Through the structure and support of Oxford houses, I learned how to live again: how to hold a job, pay bills, and be a reliable, functioning member of society. Today, I stand not only as someone in recovery but as a testament to the fact that these homes save lives. Passing HB 2239 would jeopardize that hope for others still fighting their battles. I urge you to reconsider this bill and stand with those of us who have found new life through Oxford Houses.