

Brittany Wilson  
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Dear Members of the Legislative Committee ,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to HB 2239 and to share my personal experience with the Oxford House Model. I am an alumnus of the Seahaven Oxford House in North Bend, Oregon. I moved into Oxford House just eight days after achieving sobriety and lived there for six months. I cannot overstate how profoundly this experience shaped me into the person I am today. As someone who has suffered from Substance Use Disorder (SUD) for over 26 years , I have witnessed firsthand the incredible impact this self-governing, self-supporting model has on individuals in recovery.

Since leaving Oxford House, I have dedicated my career to helping others in recovery. I now work at Bay Area First Step In Coos Bay , Oregon as a Peer Wellness Specialist and Certified Recovery Mentor . While Bay Area First Step is NARR-accredited recovery housing, it is not the only model that is successful. The Oxford House Model is equally vital to long-term recovery and remains an indispensable asset to our communities.

Oxford House has been instrumental in my journey toward sustained sobriety and tried and true in countless others. Its emphasis on accountability, community, and independence provided me with the structure I needed to rebuild my life. Unlike other programs, Oxford House empowers residents to take ownership of their recovery while fostering a supportive environment that promotes personal growth and stability while maintaining employment.

I firmly believe that the certification process and standards of Oxford House International (OHI) should be held on equal footing with NARR certification. The unique framework of Oxford House has proven its effectiveness over decades, and imposing additional requirements could jeopardize the success of this well-established model.

I urge you to recognize the immense value Oxford House brings to individuals and communities across Oregon and to oppose HB 2239. Thank you for taking the time to consider my perspective.

Sincerely, Brittany Wilson

