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**#279172 | March 28, 2021**

Testimony to **Portland City Council** on the **Shelter to Housing Continuum Project, Recommended Draft**

\*Where and How Group Living Would be Allowed \*"Household" no Longer a Basis for Regulation  
Individuals who receive Group Home services typically have intensive support needs; require a high level of structure, guidance and support to be successful. Many individuals are diagnosed with a developmental disability and one or more mental health diagnosis, as well as alcohol or drug addiction. Group homes also can house post incarceration persons. Placing persons discussed here in group housing as described in the two S2HC amendments above without any restrictions and or support is dangerous to our residential neighborhoods. There must be some accountability about these commercial facilities that can be both non-profit and for profit. For profits stand to make an incredible amount of income at neighborhood expense! It is important that the City know what type of facility the group home is and support each category of group living. Students living in a group home is one thing. However, post rehab, post incarceration, mental health, sex offender, and other similar group housing must have more scrutiny to be safely situated in our neighborhoods. This is NOT a "Fair Housing" issue. It is a "Safe Housing" issue for all persons associated with group housing. As such, any facility that caters to high risk populations should NOT be sited within 100 ft. of the elderly, disabled, very young children and adolescents. AND not within 1,000 ft. from a daycare center, pre-school, kindergarten, elementary, or high school. Considering the state of our Portland police bureau, pleas for help will be a long time coming. Conditional Use permits must not be tossed to the wayside. NOT to require limitations and accountability for group homes is irresponsible to all innocent persons.

Testimony is presented without formatting.