

January 20, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a mother of two children who have had issues with drug addiction. My oldest son found Oxford House several years ago after multiple admissions to rehab, stays in other types of halfway houses and living on the streets. I truly believe that Oxford House saved his life and brought the son I knew back to me.

The principles behind Oxford House not only help him to maintain his sobriety, but also provide him with structure and skills like paying bills on time and housekeeping. All of the housemates have to come together as one unit to keep the house up and running which is unique to Oxford House and in my opinion is better than having a dedicated house manager because each housemate learns responsibility and accountability. Additionally, living in an Oxford House provides support from others who are going through the same thing which is a must for someone in recovery.

My son got involved as the Chapter 11 chairperson and assisted the chapter Oxford Houses by helping them put processes in place so they could pay their house bills and stay afloat. He excelled in this capacity which eventually led to him being offered a position as an Outreach Coordinator with Oxford House. He loves his job and I couldn't be prouder of him. He found his niche helping others while continuing to maintain his own sobriety and has become the man I always believed he could be.

In conclusion, closing down Oxford Houses in Virginia would be detrimental for individuals who need a place to go when trying to maintain sobriety. Please vote NO on bill SB622 in order to keep Oxford Houses alive for the sake of my son and so many others in recovery. Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,  
Charlene J. Plaine