

To whom it may concern,

I would like to address the piece of legislation regarding Oxford Houses and the fact that they're peer ran. This bill is being drafted to mend a broken heart and to have some one or something to point a finger and blame. However, the actions of the person who overdosed and died was theirs and theirs alone. I have lived in Oxford Houses for the past two years. The fact that it is peer ran has taught me a lot of responsibility. I have learned a lot about paying bills, staying clean, and being able to understand my boundaries and self worth. I went from being a homeless heroin addict to being a lab technician in a genetics lab with a lot of responsibilities. I accomplish this because of the support I have in my home. All of us have been holding each other accountable and know when people need to be called out for their behavior. We don't need a state employee and regular drug testing to keep ourselves straight. If you want to start your own organization and hire a manager then go ahead. Just leave Oxford Houses alone.

Sincerely,
Joshua B