

Submitter: Kerry Kelly

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB611

My mother who lives on nothing but her social security check just had her rent raised 14.5% which is more than the city of Portland allows. This raise was more than the cost of living raise social security received. Because of this and the fact that everything from food to utilities has increased in the last few years means shes being forced to find a new place to live. Due to sky rocketing rent hikes over the last few years finding a suitable apartment in her price range has proven impossible so far. Requirements of income to move in, first/last, security deposit, rental application fees, and moving costs make it impossible for people on fixed incomes to move with little notice and ways to save enough. I support a rent increase cap and increasing the amount a landlord owes a tenant for landlord caused termination of tenancy. Low income folks, families, the elderly and veterans are being forced out of their homes due to these rental hikes. Homelessness has risen 30% since 2019 in Multnomah County with the cost of rentals raising 39% this trend is not sustainable long term.