

Submitter: Andrew Harbison
On Behalf Of: Community Alliance of Tenants
Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development
Measure: SB799

I am a former member of the Community Alliance of Tenants (CAT) and I am writing in support of Oregon SB 799.

I am an Oregon homeowner due to fear of eviction. However, my situation was one of choice.

I am familiar with the situation of having my rental housing terminated, though my position -at those times- was not of a financial nature but, rather, due to a housing-availability crisis.

Thus, I experienced market-driven forces. Fortunately, it appears that those forces are presently diminishing in their impact on rental housing.

However, market-forces are not at issue with SB 799; economic-forces are the issue associated with it.

The role SB 799 will play with regard to economic-forces is to stabilize them. If housing-security is threatened, then economic-forces worsen, not improve. Eviction impacts the labor market and, thus, the tax base leading to further stress on supportive resources for the displaced. Homelessness can then follow, further compounding the economic-forces distressing the community, as appears to be the present situation.

I am in no position to counsel on the experience of being displaced due to economic-forces. But I am able to understand how forced-displacement disrupts ones stable-livelihood.

I can only imagine the degree of disruption forced housing-displacement has on one with an unstable-livelihood that is partially, if not completely, out of their control.

Please pass SB 799.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Andrew Harbison