



community alliance of tenants

February 13th, 2025

House Committee on Housing and Homelessness
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St NE Salem, OR 97301

Re: Opposition to HB 2305

Chair Marsh, Vice-Chairs Anderson and Breese-Iverson, and Members of the Committee,

We urge you to oppose HB 2305 on behalf of the Community Alliance of Tenants (CAT), Oregon's only tenant-led renters' rights group. This legislation would greatly impact renters throughout the state, making it easier for landlords to evict tenants without providing an equal opportunity to address lease challenges. For Oregon's most vulnerable tenants, this bill will result in further displacement and housing instability at a time when housing stability is more important than ever.

Tenants from around the state use CAT's Renters Rights Hotline daily to get assistance with concerns like rent increase eviction threats and Lease enforcement. We frequently hear from renters who are making every effort to remain in their current residents but are at risk of being evicted for small infractions or unavoidable financial difficulties; many of these renters need time to catch up, not a quick route to losing their homes since they are dealing with unforeseen situations like medical difficulties or job loss the passage of HB 2305 would further destabilized communities by allowing for more unjust and avoidable evictions.

Low-income tenants, the elderly, and communities of color may be disproportionately affected by the discriminatory and uneven enforcement of lease requirements brought about by HB 2305's risky loopholes. This bill only serves to further tilt the balance of power against tenants, as existing rules already give landlords several options for dealing with valid lease infractions.

We strongly encourage you to reject HB 2305 and stand with Oregon renters who deserve fair and stable housing.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kim McCarty

Executive Director
Community Alliance of Tenants