

Submitter: Amelio Sosa
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2967

Hello,

My name is Amelio and I am a renter in the Piedmont neighborhood of Portland. I am writing in support of HB 2967 which seeks to prohibit landlords charging application fees. I am strongly in support of this measure because it is a needless barrier to housing that only benefits landlord greed. I have moved twice within the city of Portland and both times it cost 2,000-3,000 dollars to get into a room. This is security deposit, first months rent, application fees, and moving expenses. These moves were crucial to me building a stable, safe living environment for myself and they have put me in debt. I cannot recall the amount of times of seen rental listings with double or even triple digit applications that are clearly sitting online just so that landlords can make money off the application fees. It should not cost several thousand dollars for one person to secure housing. There should never be any fees to merely apply for housing. These application fees only add on to the artificially inflated cost of living we are currently experiencing that is the fault of greedy landlords and corporate oligarchy. Passing HB2967 is a small and well overdue step in the right direction for affordable housing that actually centers working class renters and not corporate property developers.

Amelio