

29 January 2023

Senate Committee on Housing and Development

Re: Senate Bill 799

Dear Chair Senator Jama, Vice-Chair Senator Anderson and members Senators Knopp, Patterson and Sollman;

Is there any room left on the bandwagon for yet more legislation favoring people who rent their homes rather than those that provide those very same homes for them to rent?

Do sponsors and supporters of SB 799 believe that rental property providers are comprised mostly of ne'er-do-wells who, with complete disregard or ignorance of the norms and mores of civilization – as well as laws already on the books – are seeking only to throw citizens out of their homes.

Speaking as a “mom & pop” rental property owner it is aggravating that yet more “assistance” is being proposed for tenants while owners that provide such units are being discounted, neglected and penalized. Do sponsors and advocates of SB 799 think that rental property owners haven’t been dealt enough blows yet over the last few years?

These last few years tenants are being overwhelmingly favored by Oregon’s legislators. And what is that except a different variety of discrimination? Yet, with some convoluted logic it is not considered discrimination.

Just how did rental property providers become the bad guys in this story? Aside from anecdotal evidence, it is hard to show, let alone prove, a systematic or even overwhelming mistreatment of tenants. Yet when tenants mistreat property owners, through non-payment of rents or destruction of property, the state sides with the tenants!

It's as if rental property owners are being discriminated against solely because they provide housing to people.

Sincerely,



Richard Wisner