

Submitter: Lyric Ballard

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB611

Dear Chair Jama, Vice Chair Anderson and Members of the Senate Committee on Housing and Development,

I'm writing to ask that you prioritize the swift passage of Senate Bill 611. Four in 10 Oregonians rent their homes and are already paying some of the highest rents in the nation.

Keeping rent reasonable impacts me personally.

Everyone in Oregon deserves safe and stable housing but our high rental costs and housing inequities are forcing families out of their homes. While the Oregon housing market provides skyrocketing property wealth for landlords, renters have nothing to fall back on when their monthly costs rise beyond their paychecks.

You are allowing the vulnerable to be priced out of even the cheapest, most meager homes in Portland, which is an incredible failure in your duty to serve the community that pays your salary. My rent has gone up twice since Covid alone, landlords are bleeding the people dry in the most critical time in our lifetimes. Choose to be on the side of the people, not of or on the side of a class that would sell the homes out from their own families if the price was good enough.

Please vote yes on SB 611 to prevent more high-rent homelessness in our communities.

Sincerely,
Lyric Ballard