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Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon

January 31, 2023

Chair Jama, Vice-Chair Anderson, and Members of the Housing and Human Development Committee,

As the state's leading political voice for reproductive healthcare, Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon is proud to be a part of the Fair Shot for All coalition, working to advance racial, gender, and economic justice for all Oregonians. Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon urges strong support of SB 799, to provide critical protection against unjust eviction and displacement for the approximately 40% of Oregon households who rent their homes.

At Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon, we know that stable housing is a social determinant of health. Unjust evictions and extreme rent increases cause immense financial hardship on working families that often require them to deplete their savings, force them into homelessness, and/or send them into a spiral of poverty. Even if a family does not lose their home, large rent increases mean families spend more of their income on housing, and less on other basic necessities like healthcare. Many Oregonians are living on the edge financially. [According to the state economist, more than 50% of Oregon renters do not have enough money left over](#) for food, medicine, and other basic necessities.

Moreover, these practices disproportionately impact families of color, and communities already facing historical and systemic barriers to jobs, housing, and healthcare. On average, landlords filed evictions against Black women renters at double the rate of or higher than their white renters in Oregon and in 16 other states, according to the ACLU's Women's Rights Project and Data Analytics team.

That is why we are writing to thank you for your consideration of SB 799. Oregon's housing crisis is going to require dozens of solutions, but protecting Oregonians who rent their homes from sudden displacement is one of the most critical.

Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon supports SB 799 because housing affects health outcomes and is an underlying, contributing factor of health inequities in Oregon. Planned Parenthood patients rely on stable homes in order to live healthy, successful lives, in which they are able to access the healthcare they need and take care of their families in safe, sustainable communities. We hope that you will join us in support of SB 799.

Sincerely,

Cassie Purdy
Political Director
Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon