

RE: Support SB 611  
Senate Committee On Housing and Development

March 28, 2023

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

My name is Marisol De La Torre, and I live in Albany, OR. I am writing in support of SB 611, an essential homelessness prevention bill that will protect Oregon tenants from experiencing displacement due to extreme rent increases.

**Oregon ranks ninth highest in the country for rental prices.**<sup>1</sup> Every year it gets harder for low-income, working-class tenants to keep up with rent spikes making them more vulnerable to experiencing housing insecurity or displacement. Black, Indigenous, people of color, immigrants, and refugees are especially at risk of displacement as they face employment and housing discrimination. **Rent spikes are a poverty trap** and perpetuate a poverty cycle that will not break unless the legislature takes appropriate action to protect vulnerable tenants.

Please pass SB 611 out of committee.

Thank you,

Marisol

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<sup>1</sup>

<https://www.kgw.com/article/news/local/oregon-rent-among-highest-in-country-according-to-new-report/283-ec40e58c-049f-4001-9cb5-eb2dd25ddbba>