

Submitter: Stephanie Tidwell
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB722

Dear Chair Pham, Vice-Chair Anderson, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to you today in support of SB 722. Oregon Renters deserve stable rental prices, free from unfair annual rent increases and price-fixing tools.

I have been both a renter and a rental property owner, so I understand both perspectives on this issue. However, renter/tenants have far fewer rights in Oregon than they should. It's just too easy for unethical landlords to take advantage of their situation. This bill would improve our state's rent stabilization statutes and prohibit the use of price-fixing software to inflate rents. This is a no-cost policy tool to help address our unfolding housing affordability crisis.

Too many Oregonians already struggle to find affordable housing before the additional burden of annual rent increases that far outpace average wage increases. SB 722 would help to stabilize rental prices and help Oregonians to maintain affordable housing and ensure that AI algorithms are not used to further burden Oregon renters.

We must continue to address the needs of those most impacted by our housing crisis.

I urge you to pass SB 722 to ensure that Oregonians are protected from unfair rental increases and price-fixing tools.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Tidwell
Eugene, OR