

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

My name is Edward Buck-Shannon and I am a Policy Associate at Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon. EMO is an interfaith association with over 750 members statewide, we operate seven direct service programs including several where we provide housing assistance to vulnerable Oregonians. We strongly urge your support in passing HB 3054A, which would protect homeowners renting spaces in manufactured home parks or floating home marinas. These homeowners are experiencing rent increases and other requirements that far exceed what they can afford with income from pensions, social security, or modest wages.

EMO is proud to advocate for this bill and others that support low-income Oregonians. In accordance with the principles of our interfaith partners we believe that no Oregonian should be deprived of basic rights like housing because of unjustifiable rent increases.

HB 3054A would provide critical housing stability protections to residents who own their homes in a park or marina. Residents on fixed or limited incomes have few options when park costs escalate, since homes are often permanently installed in place and cannot easily be moved. Surging rents are outstripping residents' capacity to pay and threatening their ability to remain in homes that were intended to provide lifelong security.

The bill would protect against extreme rent increases in large parks or marinas, and would prohibit landlords from imposing unreasonable requirements that often result in homeowners being unable to sell their homes. Often, homeowners in this situation are forced to abandon their homes, losing their most valuable asset at the same time they are displaced from the community.

HB 3054A would protect homeowners from displacement and from losing their largest asset.

Please do all you can to support this bill. Thank you for your work.

Sincerely,

Edward Buck-Shannon
Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon