

Submitter: Robbin McMain
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development
Measure: SB799
Subject: Tenant in favor of SB 799

Chair Jama, Vice-Chair Anderson, Members of the Committee,

My name is Robbin McMain and I live in Brookings, within the town of Harbor on the coast of Oregon. I live in a mobile home park where I own my home but rent my lot. I am here to testify in favor of Senate Bill 799 because evictions must be rare and they must be fair. Too many people like me are at risk for homelessness. We are counting on you because it is really frightening for regular Oregonians out there.

There are 44 residents in my mobile home park. All of us are over 55 and many of us are on a fixed income. All of us received a 14.6% rent increase. I want to say that again. All of us - all 44 - received a 14.6% rent increase and I look forward to telling you more about that when I testify in favor of Senate Bill 611. Some of in the mobile home park survive the rent increases this year, but we certainly wouldn't survive another increase of this size next year. All of us are at risk of becoming homeless and that risk is greatly increased because of Oregon's unfair and rapid eviction process.

A 72-hour eviction is unreasonable. When I think about what I would do in that situation, what my neighbors will do if one of them can't make these high rent increases, I'm at a loss for words. It's illogical and impossible to fathom. We are all at risk. Having more time would make all the difference in the world. 72 hours only gives you enough time to pack your car and move onto the street. Ten days gives you time to reach out for support, for assistance, make a plan.

If we want to stop homelessness, we have to stop putting tenants in these impossible predicaments. It's that simple. I love my home. I'm retired, and I don't want to go anywhere else. Tenants like me are scared. We need SB 799 and the Homelessness Prevention Package. I hope you will listen to our stories and vote yes on SB 799 and the Homelessness Prevention Package.

Sincerely,
Robbin from Brookings, Oregon