

Felicitia Alice "Joy" St. John

Sincerely,

public service.

I strongly urge you to pass SB 611 as quickly as possible. Thank you for your consideration and your

destabilize too many lives.

women, minorities and other at-risk populations placed on the low or fixed income, young adult and seniors,

There is no denying that the lack of affordable and available housing and the abrupt and

viable alternative?

Landlords who seek such high increases in rent annually should not be allowed to invest in senior
retirement communities where individuals on limited or fixed income have to carefully plan their long-
term their long-term residency. Two or three years of 10+% annual increases in rent can take rental
expenses far beyond an affordable range. Once a retiree reaches that level of expense, is there any
viable alternative?

Senior Citizens?

Since November, several senior residents have moved out; within the past week, four more seniors
announced their departure by the end of this month. The prospect of an unstable future is increasingly
becoming the "new norm" for retirees residing at the Eugene Hotel. Is that the "Oregon Way" to treat

residents, many of whom are on limited or fixed incomes, face an increase in rent from \$220 to \$330
per month, depending on the size of the apartment. The sudden and sheer increase in rent is generally
viewed by our residents as excessive and personally unsustainable in the future. If I face rent increases
like the one this year in the future, I will have to look for more affordable housing elsewhere (if it exists)!

Eugene community had increased the rent an average of 3% per year. That means that retired
owners of my retirement community, the Eugene Hotel Retirement Center, notified its senior residents
that our rent would be increased 14% in 2023. Historically, the former owners (local citizens of the
realty of the affordable housing emergency grabbed my attention when the new out-of-state

the amount of rent increase to 3% plus CPI per year or 8% whichever is less here in Oregon.
I strongly urge passage of SB 611, which addresses the critical need for rental stability including limiting
My name is Felicitia Alice "Joy" St. John and I am a 94-year old senior retiree residing in Eugene.

Chair Jama, Vice Chair Anderson, and Members of the Committee: