

Submitter: Rochelle Love Elder

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3493

Thank you, esteemed members of the committee, for this opportunity to testify in support of HB 3493.

My name is Rochelle Love Elder. I serve as Vice President of the Oregon State Tenants Association. This is a measure that addresses a critical imbalance in our democratic process. This bill seeks to prohibit landlords from barring political canvassing or solicitation in manufactured dwelling parks and marinas, ensuring that residents in these communities are not unfairly excluded from the political discourse.

When landlords act as gatekeepers, preventing canvassers from reaching voters inside these communities, they create a significant disparity in access to information and engagement. Residents in manufactured dwelling parks and marinas are often left out of the conversation, unable to hear directly from candidates or advocates about the issues that matter most to them. This not only silences their voices but also skews the balance of support or opposition to critical legislation and policies.

House Bill 3493 is a step toward leveling the playing field. It ensures that all voters, regardless of where they live, have the opportunity to engage with the democratic process. By allowing political canvassing and solicitation, we empower residents to make informed decisions and participate fully in shaping their future.

This bill also respects the rights of landlords by allowing them to enforce reasonable rules regarding the time, place, and manner of these activities. It strikes a fair balance, protecting the interests of all parties involved.

I urge you to support House Bill 3493 and help us address this imbalance, ensuring that every voice is heard and every voter has equal access to the democratic process. Thank you.