

Submitter: Doug Klotz
On Behalf Of: Self
Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development
Measure: SB799

Chair Jama and Committee Members:

I support SB 799. I live in Portland, and when I first arrived here, I rented for several years. The rental house was habitable in part because I did some maintenances myself, like patching holes in the bathroom floor so that rats could not get in (which I did after seeing a rat underneath the claw-foot tub). As a hardware store clerk, I had the skills to do this, but not all tenants would be able to. And when I moved out, the landlord refused to give me my deposit back. He didn't claim any damage, he just delayed and delayed. I never did get that deposit.

Renters comprise about half of Portland's households. We need to pass this bill to give renters (half of our city residents!) more stability in their homes, and fair treatment in their leasing. We need the eviction protections that this bill ensures. While some landlords are fair and honest, there are enough who do not follow the rules that we need these protections written into the law.

Thank you.
Doug Klotz