

Submitter: Margot Black
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development
Measure: SB611

Dear Legislator,

Please VOTE YES on SB 611. Unable to afford rent on my own, I combined incomes with my partner in order to afford to rent a house for our seven children (between the both of us). The rent is already higher than we can afford, even though we are both professionally employed. A 14.6% rent increase would force us to move, and we haven't been able to find anything nor could we afford to move.

I was on track to buy a home ten years ago, rent increases and forced displacement have ended that goal for me and so many others. There's no justification for annual increases over 2-3%, much less. 7 - 15%. No other business needs to returns to increase that much every year in order to stay afloat. More importantly, if landlords claim they can't survive without raising the rent by 7 - 15% every year, renters can't survive if their monthly housing costs go up by that much.

The landlords won't stop doing repairs or leave the business. That's fear mongering that has never been borne out in the data in a significant way. Oregon's real estate market has been better for institutional investors, and limiting rent increases to 3-8% certainly won't change that.

Thank you,

Margot Black
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