



# Community Vision

Empowerment. Independence. Possibilities.

February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Dear Chair Fagan, Vice Chair Girod and  
Members of the Committee:

I am the Executive Director of Community Vision. For thirty years, we have assisted individuals experiencing disabilities to live in the home of their choice in the Portland Metro area. For many years, we were able to find suitable and affordable housing for individuals in apartments in Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas counties. Unfortunately, in the last five years rents have increased dramatically and stable housing for many of the individuals we support is one no cause eviction away. It is not uncommon to see rent increases larger than ten percent per year, and for many individuals who have lived in the same housing, it is not uncommon for them to be displaced, and have to move due to a large increase in rent as new investors purchase a private apartment complex or changes are made by the current owner. Once a person is forced to move, it becomes harder to find anything on the market that matches the individual's budget for housing. As you know, affordable housing is currently the greatest challenge facing those individuals living on a limited income.

On behalf of Community Vision and especially Oregonians experiencing disabilities I ask that you move forward SB 608, the Tenant Protection Bill.

Sincerely,

Joe Wykowski  
Executive Director  
Community Vision, Inc.