

From:
To: [Exhibits SHOUS](#)
Subject: In support of SB608
Date: Monday, February 4, 2019 8:21:20 AM

Hello and thank you,

Chair Fagan, Vice Chair Girod, Members of the Committee.

My name is Reyna Gillet, I live in Northeast Portland.

I am the Community Organizer with Neighborhood Partnerships, conveners of the Oregon Housing Alliance. Our organization works to ensure all Oregonians have access to safe, stable, housing.

I've been a renter in Portland for 13 years. I moved to Oregon to have the opportunity to go to college and explore this beautiful landscape.

I've moved nearly every year since coming to Oregon.

Most of my work experience has been in the service industry. I'm proud of that work. It got me through college. But I didn't make much money, my monthly income barely paid for half of my monthly rent. I wasn't able to save for emergencies, basic needs, and doctor visits. In 2015 when faced with the reality of having to quickly move out of my costly apartment, I did not have the means to pay the deposit on another place to live . . . luckily my coworker let me buy her van with a monthly payment agreement, and for two years I lived in that van, (I named her Betty). All this stress happened in my life while finishing my senior year of Portland State, and working at a grocery store. Living in my vehicle created constant stress in my life, and added to my inability to have much hope.

Because I'm not that far removed from other Oregonians who are living on the streets, facing rising costs of rent, and scraping to get by, that is why I do this work, and why I am asking you to vote yes on SB 608. Having safe, stable places to call home can mean having the foundation to go out and do things for your community, explore, and have opportunity... that is what home has done for me.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Reyna Gillet

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10