AM

Chair Fagan, members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify. My name is Richard Greensted, I'm a rental provider in North Portland and I support SB608.

Chair Fagan thank you for your leadership in tackling our state's housing crisis.

In short, hard working Oregonians deserve stability. SB608 is about providing the 4 in 10 Oregonians that are renters a system that is not stacked in favor of rental providers.

Ending no cause evictions gives renters the ability to remedy alleged lease violations and guards against discrimination.

I could not in good conscience, sit before you and argue that I deserve the absolute right of a no cause eviction and unlimited rent hikes. While I own a few buildings and the land they sit on, they are the place a tenant and their family calls home.

I have signed the Community Alliance of Tenants' landlord pledge that I will not issue a no cause eviction and I will limit rent increases to 5%. If anything, SB608 could go farther.

To be clear, Oregon is experiencing a housing emergency. It is long past time to act. One of my units is rented to a family in need in partnership with Human Solutions. They are a great organization doing the really difficult work of housing families but they are overburdened. SB608 is a step toward keeping families in their homes so they don't experience the trauma of homelessness.

Lastly, stable housing plays a vital role in ensuring students arrive to school ready to learn. SB608 will positively contribute to student success.

Again, Chair Fagan, thank you for your leadership. Members of the committee, please support SB608

Thank you for your time.

Kind Regards, Richard Greensted North Portland