

My name is Shaine Scarminach, a tenant living in North East Portland, and I am writing to support the passage of HB 2372.

Tenants should not be subjected to no-cause evictions, whether in the first day or the first year of their tenancy. The recent wave of unforeseen disasters, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 wildfires, and the recent power outages caused by snow and cold temperatures make clear that tenants should not have to worry about keeping a roof over their heads amid dangerous and disruptive events beyond their control. Moreover, the threat of eviction not only undermines the right of everyone to have safe, comfortable, and accessible housing. When landlords can evict tenants for no reason, they subject them to the harms of dislocation, increase the state's population of unhoused people, stress state and local public services, and deepen the crisis of affordability in the state's metro areas. Eliminating no-cause evictions will keep people in their homes, make sure they can maintain social ties, jobs, and access to other public services, and provide a source of stability and comfort in difficult times.