

February 8, 2023

Chair Jama, Vice Chair Anderson, Members of the Committee:

My name is Lynne, and I am retired. I write to you in support of SB 611, which addresses the critical need for rental stability in our state. I live in Eugene.

This proposal will provide much-needed relief to renters who are struggling to make ends meet in the face of rising rents and limited resources. It will limit annual rent increases to 3% plus CPI or 8% whichever is lower, provide protections for all buildings over three years-old, and increase relocation assistance in no-fault evictions.

I personally know how difficult it can be to face rent increases, especially when it means having to choose between paying the bills or putting food on the table. I am a single, retired hourly wage earner living alone. My rent will go up 10% beginning in April 2023. The new owners, an investment firm, are charging double the rent for anyone moving in newly, compared to when I moved in. New tenants will be charged \$1,055 per month for a tiny piece of land on which the manufactured home sits. There isn't even room to grow a garden. The purchase prices are now outrageous in this manufactured home park. I paid \$67,500 for my house just seven years ago. Now the investment firm (owner) is asking \$180,000 or more.

The burden of housing insecurity is not limited to just me. It affects families, seniors, and low-income renters throughout our state. Senior widows living only on Social Security here in our park will be in dire straits should they have to move out. We must act now to ensure that our communities have access to safe, stable, and affordable housing. These mobile/manufactured home parks were great for low income housing before investment firms bought them up!

In conclusion, I urge our legislators to support SB 611, which will provide much-needed relief to renters across our state. Housing is a human right, and it is our responsibility to ensure that all Oregonians have access to safe, stable, and affordable housing. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lynne A. Dory