

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

My name is Mikki Slaska and I work at a local used bookstore in Eugene. I write to you in support of SB 611, which addresses the critical need for rental stability in our state.

I am proud to be a member of Eugene Tenant Alliance, which is among the many organizations in support of this bill. 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 have had to move numerous times to ever-worsening conditions because I couldn't afford to stay in a space with the increased rent proposed. The burden of housing insecurity is not limited to just me; it affects families, seniors, and low-income renters throughout our state. We must act now to ensure that our communities have access to safe, stable, and affordable housing.

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,

Mikki Slaska