

Submitter: Glenna Hayes

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB799

Dear Legislators, I am writing today in support of SB 799. We are in a National Housing Crisis. Oregon is in a Housing Crisis. This is not new to the people who are you constituents. What I want to highlight today is that many individuals who are struggling to recovery financially from COVID, many on fixed incomes, and many who are disabled (on SSI/SSDI) cannot afford the housing here in Oregon. Oregon has an estimated cost of living \$42,055 per year. Specifically for Portland it is \$51,200.04 a year, \$4,267 take home per month.

Waitlist for subsidized housing in Oregon are 2-5 years. U.S. housing prices shot up 18.8% in 2021, the highest calendar year increase in 34 years of data. Residential rents typically follow home prices, and this past year was no exception. This January's average rents were 15.2% higher than last January's. Rents skyrocketed in 48 of the 50 biggest U.S. metro areas. The highest jump? Portland, Oregon, at +39%. I know that is just data, but attached to these numbers are families, human beings that deserve to have housing. Landlords hold so much power over evictions, and with the housing crisis when people are served notice of eviction it does not leave enough room for people to financially prepare for moving, without getting even more in debt and many cannot access housing anywhere because of evictions and debt. Which means many are left with no choice but to live in unlivable, unsafe conditions or houseless. There needs to be additional time and notices, along with programs to help people work with landlords to get their payment. We need more time to help these people transition into housing so they are not just another number in our data. Please vote yes on SB 799