

Submitter: Yuridia S
On Behalf Of: HB2001
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness
Measure: HB2001

Chair Dexter, Vice-Chairs Gamba and Helfrich, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Yuridia S., I am a resident of the city of Hillsboro. I am writing in support of the Stable Homes for Oregon Families bill. We all deserve a safe home. The well-being of our neighbors and our communities depends on this basic need being met. Rent increases and evictions have disproportionately affected minorities. An ACLU study shows that black women in Oregon are twice as likely to face eviction. Minority Oregonians are the majority renters due to existing barriers in the housing and employment system that prevent them from being able to own their own home. The average monthly evictions have increased by 43% compared to 2019. My husband and I work full time and rent an apartment where we live with our children. Our income does not allow us to qualify for any program, however, it does not allow us to buy a house either. Our savings capacity is very low. More than 40% of our family income is used to pay the monthly rent. We are one accident or illness away from falling behind on rent and facing eviction. Fortunately we have the opportunity to pass this package of Homelessness Prevention measures in Oregon that would allow people who need it to access rental assistance. I would reform evictions to stop evictions from escalating and offer a safe period that prevents landlords from refusing to receive payments when people get the money or rental assistance is approved. It would put reasonable limits on rents so that people can pay for their housing and a registry would be established to know the exact number of rental units. We have the right to a safe home, a home that we can afford without sacrificing food for our family, or other needs that we have to cover with donations due to the high cost of rent. I ask for your support of this 2023 Oregon Homelessness Prevention Package! Sincerely, Yuridia S.