

Submitter: Tina Olguin

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB611

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

My name is Tina Olguin and I live in Canby. I am a renter testifying in support of the critical and lifesaving protections of SB 611.

My landlord increases the rent every year. This year it's going up 8% or more. I'm scared to death. My husband is a wheelchair user and on dialysis and we wouldn't be able to survive on the streets. Our raises can't keep up with the scale of rent increases. Without protections like those in SB611, it's no wonder there are so many homeless people. We can't afford rent, even when we're working.

My husband is from Canby and we moved back here from Arizona 6 years ago. We were so lucky to even find a one-bedroom we could afford. And now, it's all at risk. Our elderly neighbors are in a position of having to choose between vital necessities. Many of them are going without medications in order to keep a roof over their head. How could they afford a 14.6% rent increase?

Oregon desperately needs a rent cap that limits predatory rent increases. So many people are especially vulnerable and bearing the brunt of the impact: elders, families with children who are just scraping by, and disabled renters. Protections like SB 611 are a critical step towards keeping families like me in our homes.

Thank you.