

Submitter: Joseph Taylor Sr

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB611

Dear Chair Jama, and Vice Chair Anderson, Members of the Housing Committee

I live in Portland, and pay \$1,400 at the place I rent and I am urging your support of SB 611. I can afford it here, I'm lucky - but it's kind of high. I've been here about a year and a half. Last time they raised it, but it was reasonable - if they raised it some more, I'd be upset, because what options would I have? I have no idea what they're going to do at the end of my lease this year. I would have to get a roommate or I might have to be on the sidewalk somewhere.

Food prices going up, gas prices, utilities plus high rents are making it unlivable; we can see the effects in the explosion of rents across our state over the past few years. Just talk to people, listen to their stories of folks on the streets, you'll hear the same from a lot of them.

We can call it inflation, but it's greed.

When Oregon leaders first passed the rent cap bill in 2019, we became the first state in the country to adopt this historic tenant protection.

Now, three years later and a global pandemic later, the deep need to reduce the cap is clear. If we want to prevent high-rent homelessness, we must keep rents reasonable for all Oregonians, and make sure they are on track with working peoples' costs of living.

Thank you,
Joseph Taylor Sr.