

Submitter: Dolores Smith

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB611

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

My name is Dolores Smith and I live in Brookings, Oregon. I am testifying in favor of SB 611 because the state legislature must roll back the rent increases to a more reasonable level, and protect more people from rent gouging.

When I purchased my home four years ago, my rent (for the land) was \$410 per month with water and sewer included in that price. My last rent bill was for nearly \$100 more and now water and sewer are no longer included. In April, my rent will be increased by an additional \$62 (14.6%) making my rent close to \$600 per month. If I were to be evicted, I could not afford to move my home and so I would be out over \$200,000 losing my home that is paid for and becoming a burden to my children.

Many of my neighbors and many people throughout the state are on a fixed income that may cause them to be unable to see the newest rent increases. Their income is certainly not increasing at the same rate. Eviction laws are such that they would just have to walk away from their homes. I am nervous about the future of living in my home in Oregon. The consequences of these laws will cause a huge increase in the homeless rate. Please pass SB 611.

Thank you,

Dolores