

Submitter: Jacqueline Jolles

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB611

Chair Jama and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jacqueline Jolles and I am a tenant living in Portland, here today to speak to the need for Senate Bill 611. I moved back home to Oregon about six years ago to help care for my father who has dementia and I was lucky enough to find an apartment just across the street from where he lives so I am able to easily care for him with my husband.

When we started renting our unit, it was about \$1,300 per month for our one-bedroom. It is now about \$1,800. A 14% increase would price us out of our home. My husband and I are both on a fixed income, a couple in our 60's and 70's, so increases in rent would cause us to have to cut back on essentials like food and medical treatments just to stay housed.

The hedge fund that owns our apartment building doesn't care about tenants who call it home. They care about profit. They don't mind if seniors become homeless in the process. Senate Bill 611 is a fair and common-sense solution. Frankly, it's a compromise because I'm still worried about an 8% increase, but it's still incredibly helpful when compared to 14.

Oregon tenants like me need Senate Bill 611 because rising rent costs are pushing people into homelessness. Will my husband and I be next?

Thank you for your time and please support this common sense bill.