

Submitter: Robbin McMMain

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB611

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

My name is Robbin McMMain and I live in Brookings, within the town of Harbor on the coast of Oregon. I live in a mobile home park where I own my home but rent my lot. I am here to testify in favor of Senate Bill 611. Too many people like me are at risk for homelessness. We are counting on you because it is really frightening for regular Oregonians out there.

There are 44 residents in my mobile home park. All of us are over 55 and many of us are on a fixed income. All of us received a 14.6% rent increase. I want to say that again. All of us - all 44 - received a 14.6% rent increase. Some of in the mobile home park survive the rent increases this year, but we certainly wouldn't survive another increase of this size next year. All of us are at risk of becoming homeless and that risk is greatly increased because of Oregon's unfair and rapid eviction process.

Two years ago a corporation bought our park. Since then, rents have gone up and unresolved repairs have gotten bad enough to threatened the integrity of some of our homes and our health. We are a well-kept park. We take care of each other. We really are a community. We have a lady here who's lived here for 13 years and a leak totally flooded her property. The leak did get fixed eventually, but nothing was done about the mold and mildew problems it caused. Another tenant just cried and cried about the increase. She's paying her rent, she's always paid her rent. But she has nowhere else to go. We're pooling together to help her, but we're drowning too. We need a sensible rent cap that seniors can cope with.

If we want to stop homelessness, we have to stop putting tenants in these impossible predicaments. It's that simple. I love my home. I'm retired, and I don't want to go anywhere else. Tenants like me are scared. I hope you will listen to our stories and vote yes on SB 611.

Thank you,
Robbin McMMain