

Submitter: Antoniette Naranjo-Rivera

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3503

Dear Chair Representative Dexter, Vice Chairs Representative Gamba and Representative Helfrich, and members of the committee,

My name is Antoniette Naranjo-Rivera and I live in Nehalem, Oregon. I am writing today in support of HB 3505. Housing stability and accessibility is one of the largest crises that we are facing in Oregon, and especially in my rural community on the north coast. Rent prices continue to rise, forcing renters out of their neighborhoods, and in some cases into homelessness. Rent costs have become so high that many renters, including myself, spend half of their income or more every month on housing. Folks across the state have been displaced and separated from their communities and loved ones, which has disproportionately impacted Black, Indigenous, People of Color.

Oregon currently has statewide rent stabilization measures, but prohibits local governments from implementing their own policies. We need to reverse this ban on local rent control to give governments across Oregon the freedom to introduce rent control measures that make sense for their communities. What is needed on the coast is different from what is needed in Portland. Rent control is one crucial step toward consistently keeping renters in their homes. I urge you to support HB 3503. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Antoniette Naranjo-Rivera