

Submitter: Jacqueline Jolles

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3503

Chair Dexter, Vice Chairs Gamba and Helfrich, 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 House Bill 3503. 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. House Bill 3503 would allow me to work with my local representatives here to do something about the increases in rent, ultimately preventing more homelessness.

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.