

Submitter: Cori-Ann Woodard
On Behalf Of: Mobile Home Residents
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3054

Hello,

My name is Cori-Ann Woodard. I'm 66 years old and still working and in good health. I live in Portland Mobile Estates Mobile Home Park in Portland, Oregon.

I'm concerned that Mobile Home Parks like this will become unaffordable for senior citizens who currently live in them. With rent increases at 9 percent, it doesn't take long to price new residents out and trap the old residents in.

Parks like Portland Mobile Estates are being bought up aggressively by out-of-town investors who put profits before people.

Many people living at Portland Mobile Estates are vulnerable; living on social security, widowed and dealing with many health problems. We've given our whole lives to our community. We've served in the military, made families and careers, gone to college and volunteered. We don't need to be siloed, living in fear that we too, will be the next wave of homeless individuals, living somewhere on the streets of Portland, cold, hoping our luck will change. We're not looking for a hand out. We're asking for a hand up; a more financially reasonable rent increase, year to year, so we don't have to worry about choosing to take our medications, use the electricity, or eat.

We need rents set at Social Security COLA, so we can actually afford to live our last years with the peace of mind that all we've done is worth something, and that we matter. We don't need to be forgotten. We need to be remembered, for all we've done, for all we've fought for.

We need legislation that will protect us from aggressive, out of state owners, who only see how the numbers pencil out for their profits; for their investors, at the expense of many low income seniors who really can't work anymore.

We need you, the legislators to find the compassion, the heart, the concern to pass this bill to support your parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, friends and neighbors, as we navigate our twilight years in the mobile home parks.

This is our chance to make a difference for many people, together, to help our neighbors, our friends, our family, co workers and community members keep their housing and stability. To keep their peace of mind.

We don't have time to wait. Not anymore.

I'm asking for the yes votes from the Oregon Legislature in 2025 to keep people housed, I'm asking you to pass this bill immediately to make a brighter tomorrow for so many Oregonians who live in manufactured homes and mobile home communities all across Oregon.

I'm also asking you to consider the other elements of this bill, that keep these communities a little more livable, without an unknown watchdog invading personal privacy, when it suits them, not at the convenience of the mobile home owners.

Let's make this happen!

I'm looking forward to seeing this bill passed, and I'll be sharing my thoughts about it, as I have been with my neighbors at Portland Mobile Estates. Everyone I've talked to at Portland Mobile Estates supports the passage of this important new legislation. It could be life changing for many; a bright future for most.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this personal, testimony of the lived experiences of myself and my neighbors at Portland Mobile Estates.

Best Wishes,

Cori-Ann Woodard