



I'm writing today on behalf of Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN) to express strong support for SB 722 and ask that you vote in favor of the bill. COIN is made up of Indivisible groups from across Oregon that collaborate to protect democracy and implement progressive values in a variety of ways, including advocating for legislation that best reflects our values.

SB 722 would prohibit residential landlords from using price-fixing software to set exorbitantly high rental rates and would reduce the period that new dwelling units are exempt from caps on residential rent increases.

Numerous coalitions, consisting of dozens of community-based organizations and labor unions, support this legislation. This includes Stable Homes for Oregon Families, Fair Shot for All, and Our Children Oregon.

Our Children Oregon's website has the following to say about SB 722:

"Oregon has some of the worst housing affordability in the nation. Rents are high, and wages have not kept up. Partially, this is due to the fact that we have extreme shortages of affordable units, and partially this is because the private market is still not regulated enough – all units less than 15 years old are entirely exempt from rent stabilization statutes. The tight market means that in newer units, prices have spiked exorbitantly, and even in units that are covered by rent stabilization, landlords are able to charge right up to the annual cap, which is not protective enough. The use of price-fixing algorithmic software exacerbates this situation, maximizing profit on any unit while destabilizing Oregon's families. Consequently, the risk of eviction and homelessness is one of the biggest fears for low and moderate income households across the state, and the eviction rate is higher than ever. The solution is to ban the use of price-fixing algorithmic software and to strengthen and improve coverage of Oregon's rent stabilization statutes."

Housing insecurity is a huge problem in Oregon. SB 722 addresses it directly. The use of price-fixing algorithmic software is a blight on our communities. Please support our community and vote in favor of SB 722

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