

Submitter: Eric Gold

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB722

As a renter in Portland, I am writing in support of SB 722. The state of Oregon has already acknowledged the harm of price-fixing software in the rental housing market by joining a federal lawsuit against the practice. The legislature should pass this bill to ensure that Oregon tenants—already the 6th-most cost burdened in the country—will not also have to contend with price-fixing software to artificially inflate rents. The bill's reduction of the exemption from the rent stabilization statute from 15 to 7 years is also important and appropriate. If private housing developers need exorbitant rent increases to extract enough profit from their projects to motivate them to build, the public sector should step in to develop mixed-income social housing instead.