

Submitter: Cory Pinckard

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB722

Dear Chair Pham, Vice-Chair Anderson, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to you today in support of SB 722. Oregon Renters deserve stable rental prices, free from unfair annual rent increases and price-fixing tools.

This bill would improve our state's rent stabilization statutes and prohibit the use of price-fixing software to inflate rents. This is a no-cost policy tool to help address our unfolding housing affordability crisis.

Too many Oregonians already struggle to find affordable housing before the additional burden of annual rent increases that far outpace average wage increases. SB 722 would help to stabilize rental prices and help Oregonians to maintain affordable housing and ensure that AI algorithms are not used to further burden Oregon renters.

We must continue to address the needs of those most impacted by our housing crisis. We need to make extant housing affordable&we need public housing as the failures of the market have proven with the scattered,shattered lives of millions upon millions of Americans here in the US.There is so much empty housing serving as financial assets in investment portfolios of hedge fund&permanent capital cretins instead of as direly needed shelter for Americans.These unnecessary anonymous office buildings&homogeneously hideous petrochemical yuppie kennel condos intentionally priced out of financial reach of the workforce aren't making housing more accessible by the developers of mediocrity(ever unhelpful and undesirable to the taxpayer residents by "adding to supply" or affordability, but to the contrary&our collective detriment,are directly causing housing to be more expensive and,of course,less attainable as they artificially inflate the market that then causes cost of living to skyrocket).

Actual houses should be affordable for everyone as a societal standard with an economy that isn't allowed to rob people of it.Supply&demand oversimplification is a false narrative frequently used as a disingenuous ploy of price gouging corporate slumlords&profiteering developers of blight who knock down our cherished structures&affordable housing stock to then exploit tenants mercilessly.

Simply building more just isn't the answer whether the soft handed nut-jobs of unearned wealth that comprise the plutocracy like it or not.We cannot outbuild the greed of rentier capitalism. Allowing society to regress into another gilded age by

allowing feudalism to exist in modern day America is pathetic and we need to evolve beyond an economy that cancerously consumes society. The entire city could be nothing but the tacky garbage housing being forced on us at infinite stories high&it'd still be unaffordable to most real people.

Housing is supposed to shelter people, not exploitative profits. We need rent caps. Housing, in a humane, sane society, is for people having homes; the manifest purpose of housing is not for plutocratic investment. It's errant&always socially destructive to allow societal necessities to be commodified&exploited as consumerist products.

I urge you to pass SB 722 to ensure that Oregonians are protected from unfair rental increases and price-fixing tools.

Sincerely,
Cory Pinckard
Portland, OR