

Submitter: Victory Hall

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB722

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

I am writing in strong support of SB 722, which will help prevent displacement and extreme rent spikes by extending coverage of our state's rent stabilization statutes, and prohibiting the use of price-fixing software to inflate rents.

As a renter and member of Residents Organizing for Change (ROC) I strongly support SB 722. So many of us struggle each month to pay our rent on time in this economy. We don't need another way to make this more difficult. We need landlords to realize with extreme rent spikes they are continuing to contribute to the homeless crisis here in Oregon as well as hurting themselves by making their property less affordable which causes vacancies to last longer. This measure is common sense legislation the way it is written!

SB 722 is the only policy tool on the table this session that would provide immediate and measurable protection for Oregonians suffering due to rent spikes as a result of our state's affordable housing crisis.

The bill reduces the current 15 year exemption for new construction from our statewide rent stabilization statute down to 7 years. This change would provide reasonable rent stabilization protection for an additional 40,000 housing units and between 80,000 to 100,000 Oregonians.