



Re: Support for HB 2134 – Freedom to Find a Place
Chair Pham, Vice-Chair Anderson, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Alexis Ames, with the Community Alliance of Tenants (CAT), in support of HB 2134.

Through CAT, we work directly with tenants across Oregon — the majority of whom are facing rent increases, retaliatory management practices, and other destabilizing housing issues that threaten their ability to remain housed. Many are doing everything they can just to stay in their homes, while others are forced to make heartbreaking decisions about whether they can afford to continue living in units that have become unaffordable or unsafe.

HB 2134 helps protect tenants by allowing them to leave their lease early with 30 days' notice if the landlord says they won't renew the lease. This is important for tenants dealing with rising rents, harassment, or poor living conditions. It gives them a way to move without falling into debt or hurting their rental history.

This bill is important for tenants who face housing instability through no fault of their own. Whether due to a sudden rent increase, unsafe living conditions, or a landlord deciding not to renew their lease, renters deserve the chance to transition without financial penalties. HB 2134 provides that flexibility. It ensures that when a tenant is asked to leave, they have the right to plan their move in a way that protects their well-being, financial stability, and future housing options.

I ask for your support for HB 2134. This bill is practical and caring. It gives renters the flexibility and respect they need.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Alexis Ames
Community Engagement Coordinator
Community Alliance of Tenants