

Submitter: Kerry Varley

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3054

When my mother and I bought the home in 2019, we thought it was an excellent place to live our final years. She has since died and I struggle to pay all the increasing costs including the yearly rent increases. It is a wonderful community of seniors helping seniors, each of us knowing the physical problems associated with ageing. It is a safe, convenient little community where we can maintain some measure of independence, often with the assistance of our neighbors. Without this haven, most of us will be forced to live in Medicaid facilities where we lose the quality of life we enjoy here and that will result in added costs to the state and federal budgets. It seems impossible that the large rent increases have been expended on upgrading the infrastructure as repairs are only carried out when infrastructure fails. The only exception is the common facilities (community center, property management offices, etc.) where the owner has expressed that upgrades would be more attractive to prospective buyers and thus increase the rent possibilities. The owner surely has a right to make a profit, but it appears that maximizing the profit takes precedence over the well-being of seniors. For that we reason, we must, as always, turn to the legislature to protect us from the constant desire for more wealth at the expense of the most vulnerable. Therefore, I am supporting this measure and I applaud the lawmakers who care about the common good.