



Date: May 7, 2025

To: Senate Committee on Housing and Development
From: Nansi López, Policy Director for Centro Cultural
Re: HB 3054A

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

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB 3054A. I am Nansi López, the Policy Director for Centro Cultural.

Centro Cultural is the oldest and longest-serving Latino culturally specific organization in the state of Oregon. It empowers Latino families and diverse communities by removing barriers, fostering well-being, and building power to achieve economic prosperity. Centro centers the experiences of those most impacted in our communities in everything we do, with a commitment to reducing barriers at every level of our work.

There is an urgent need for your support in passing HB 3054A, which is crucial in protecting homeowners renting spaces in manufactured home parks or floating home marinas. These homeowners are currently facing rent increases and other requirements that far exceed their limited income from pensions, social security, or modest wages.

In an effort to support this bill, Centro Cultural staff, including myself, committed to pounding the pavement yesterday, reluctantly on a sunny day! However, we knew that this work was essential to the people it would impact. I am here today to uplift the voices of those who this bill will impact if it fails or if they are not reflected in this process of great privilege. Jerry, a senior citizen displaying his "I am a Veteran" sticker, can't be here but signed our letter supporting this bill. Ms. Carley, who cannot navigate the internet, much less the OLIS platform, is strongly supportive and mentioned that they keep raising the rent of those who choose to call this place HOME. Tamara Vargas didn't know about this bill or who represented her district but signed it with firm support. Hector & Luis Aguilar, who know of Centro and without a doubt sign on to the letter - it's about trust, and they trust us in what we do for the community. Another Jerry, enjoying his rocking chair, didn't need much when he heard "rent cap." He just wanted to sign! We connected with nearly 50 households in two hours and received 30 signatures supporting the bill. For the 20 households that didn't sign, I want to say this: ***This system has a history of not being inclusive. People fear information sharing for fear of exposure and retaliation, especially when certain community members are***



clear targets - citizens or non-citizens. Centro does not fear the system or retaliation; we are privileged to participate in it and trust that legislators will remember those we cannot be here and those we connected with in our backyard.

Rising rents are not the answer, especially for those who are barely getting by or facing impacts from the federal government. Oregonians with limited income from pensions, social security, or modest wages are the most vulnerable homeowners. It's crucial that we protect them to avoid pushing them further into poverty or potential homelessness.

The bill would protect against extreme rent increases in large parks or marinas and prohibit landlords from imposing unreasonable requirements that often result in homeowners being unable to sell their homes. Usually, homeowners in this situation are forced to abandon their homes, lose their most valuable assets, and are displaced from the community. The bill would provide critical housing stability protections to those with fixed or limited incomes, who have few options when park costs escalate. The threat of surging rents is outstripping residents' capacity to pay, jeopardizing their ability to remain in homes that provide lifelong security.

HB 3054A is not just a bill, it's a lifeline for these homeowners. It would protect them from displacement and losing their most significant assets. ***Your support for HB 3054A is crucial. Your decision will directly impact the lives of these vulnerable homeowners.*** We urge you to take a stand and support this bill.

Sincerely,

Nansi López | *Policy Director, Centro Cultural*

[illegible]

[illegible]