

Submitter:

Valene Wolfe

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3974

Chair Marsh, Vice-Chair Anderson, Vice-Chair Breese-Iverson, and Members of the Committee,

As a renter and single parent in Redmond for many years, every little bit helps—every penny is carefully accounted for. Money is always tight, and with the rising cost of living, it feels like everything comes with a price. Putting limits on application fees would take a huge weight off families like mine, making it a little easier to find and keep a safe place to call home. It's a change that could help so many people in our community.

I urge you to pass HB 3974, capping application fees at \$20. These fees place a significant burden on low-income renters, making it harder to secure stable housing, particularly for marginalized communities. As a result, many families remain in unstable living conditions. With this cap, landlords can still check all essential criteria—credit, background, and rental history—without overcharging applicants. Passing this bill would not only reduce barriers to housing but also increase community safety by providing more people access to stable housing.

Thank you.