

Date: 3-19-2013

Dear Representatives and Senators :

I am the owner of a manufactured home in the Clackamas River Community Cooperative in Clackamas, Oregon that was purchased by residents in 2012. I urge you to support HB 3007 to ensure that other manufactured home owners have the same opportunity to purchase the land underneath their homes and achieve long term financial security that we were given.

The opportunity for residents to purchase their community is rare in our state. Resident ownership has been successful around the country, but has not become widespread in Oregon because we often do not have a chance to make an offer for the community when it is for sale.

Having the ability to purchase the manufactured home community where I live was important to me for many reasons. Now that we own our community, we control the rental income and expenses for the community and don't have to factor in a profit. Because of this, we anticipate our rents will stay stable for a long period of time.

In addition, we no longer live in fear that our park will close. Our homes are our largest investment. In the past, the possibility of having to move them out of the park or potentially lose them would have been traumatic both financially and emotionally. Now that we own our community, we have peace of mind knowing that it will continue to operate as a manufactured housing community. We feel comfortable investing in our homes and making improvements to the infrastructure knowing that we can't lose our homes to a park closure or redevelopment.

I have witnessed three other parks being sold to investors who abruptly and gave the residents eviction notices. Many were on Social Security and it totally disrupted their lives. Had they been given enough time, they may have been able to organize and purchase the park themselves. HB3007 is a very important bill.

PLEASE VOTE YES ON HB3007.

I urge you to support HB 3007 so that more residents of manufactured housing parks are given a realistic opportunity to purchase the community where they live.

Sincerely,

Robert C McDonald
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