



DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF LANE COUNTY

To: Oregon House Committee on Human Services and Housing
From: Chris Wig, Chair, Democratic Party of Lane County
Re: Support for HB 4001

February 1, 2016

Dear Chair Keny-Guyer and Members of the Committee:

I am writing on behalf of the 87,517 Democrats in Lane County to urge you to vote Yes on House Bill 4001, which would expand tenant protections by increasing the required notice for evictions without cause and substantial rent increases to 90 days.

According to our 2016 Platform, it is the responsibility of the Democratic Party of Lane County to "Support strengthening protections for tenants and renters through inclusionary zoning, reasonable notice for no-cause evictions and rent increases, ending discriminatory practices, and deposit recovery protections."

For many people in Eugene the housing situation is dire. The supply of affordable and workforce housing in the city is insufficient to meet the needs of the population. The lifting of state preemption on inclusionary zoning would provide Eugene's municipal government with a much needed tool to encourage responsible development that meets the needs of all Eugeniens regardless of socioeconomic status. In addition, people in Eugene and throughout Lane County are being driven into homelessness through no-cause evictions and rent increases they could never afford to pay. These are people who pay their rent and follow the rules. The protections proposed in HB4001 will provide these hardworking people with the time they need to gather resources and get back on their feet after being displaced by the crippling financial impact of eviction without cause.

Please contact me if you have any questions or require additional information. I look forward to working with you to create a safe, prosperous and enduring Oregon.

Your friend,

Chris Wig
Chair
Democratic Party of Lane County