

Kate Brown
Governor



Oregon Commission on Black Affairs
"Advocating Equality and Diversity"
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Testimony in Support of HB 4001
February 1, 2016, Hearing Room D, 3 pm
House Committee on Human Services and Housing

Chair Keny-Guyer, Vice-Chairs Piluso and Stark, and Representatives Buehler, Evans, Gallegos, Hayden, Parrish and Taylor:

The Oregon Commission for Black Affairs, in its role of advocate for communities of color in Oregon, strongly supports HB 4001.

The housing crisis in Oregon has many aspects that deeply affect Oregonians and renters in particular. Home ownership among communities of color and low income individuals is out of reach for many who are often raising their families in rental units. As rents skyrocket in urban areas and large cities in Oregon we share your concern that families and others who are experiencing rents increasing beyond their means to support, have time to relocate. We have all experienced the disruption that moving creates, but being thrown into all that entails with little or no notice is a challenge no one could take on without negative effect to their other responsibilities including work, child care, school, and all the details of successful living.

The OCBA believes that landlords have the responsibility and the ability to provide reasonable notice of coming rent increases. Further, reasonable notice of rent increase will provide families time to transition to new housing and positively reflect on landlords as caring community partners.

The Oregon Commission on Black affairs urges your positive consideration of HB 4001.

Sincerely,

James Manning, Chair

OR Commission on Black Affairs

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