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TO: Chair Williamson
Members of the House Committee on Rules

FR: Oregon AFL-CIO

RE: **Support for HB 4143**

February 15, 2016

The Oregon AFL-CIO, representing over 300,000 working Oregonians, is a voice for all workers in the legislative process. As we consider our role as a worker advocate, we cannot overlook the increasing barriers that workers across the state are continuing to face as they look for stable housing solutions.

Workers across the state are being forced to look for new housing more frequently, often farther from their places of employment due to increased housing costs and a lack of availability. HB 4143 currently provides modest reprieve for renters by disallowing rent increases for the first year, and imposing a 90-day notice for both rent increases past the first year and no cause evictions. We believe these changes to be a common sense approach to a problem that according to trends is only going to continue to become a bigger barrier for more working families.

The Oregon AFL-CIO is proud to stand with our partners and urge your support for HB 4143, and encourages other steps to comprehensive housing policy solutions for workers across the state.