

Please, esteemed legislators: We desperately need your help to rescind the cruel statewide ban on local jurisdictions enacting rent stabilization measures, and to end "nocause" evictions. Many people here in Portland are suffering terribly from extreme rent increases. Whole buildings and families are suddenly finding themselves getting mass evictions with nowhere to go. Just on my block alone, I have seen a dramatic increase in people camped out up and down my street, and I live in a relatively "nice neighborhood" (Montavilla).

The state preemption, this topdown gift from Salem to landlords enacted in the last century that ties the hands of local cities and towns from protecting the interests of the majority of their residents, is intolerable. It defies explanation how anyone of any political stripe can justify such an intrusion into local self-rule, just for the sake of enriching certain private parties. I fail to see what political ideology countenances such a thing, other than pure greed and self-dealing.