

Dear Oregon Legislature:

I am writing today in support of tenant protections. I live in Portland where the only new housing development is luxury apartments costing over \$2,000 per month. Meanwhile, modest apartments are being purchased by out of state investors who are doubling rent for working class families. The consequences of limited affordable housing has increased our homeless population, which is visible everywhere.

The consequences of Oregon's unstable and costly rental market has reverberated to all areas of the community and economy. Small businesses can no longer afford to find employees, traffic congestion increased thanks to longer commutes, and children are pulled from school because they have become homeless.

Our state's failure to protect the local working class will have a dire impact on our collective success. Arguments suggesting we'll run short of new development if rent control is passed are overexaggerated. Modest rent control is a reasonable and a common method for addressing economic imbalances.

I am a renter who shares a two bedroom in Portland for \$1650 and feel fortunate to have a landlord who possesses reasonable judgment and compassion. I write today on behalf of all renters especially those who do not share my fortune. And to be frank, should my landlord sell this unit I too would be homeless in spite of being employed full time.

In short, I ask the Oregon legislature to repeal its ban on rent control and allow local communities to decide rental policies that work best for them.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Aimee Sukol