



May 1, 2017

Dear Chair Gelser, Vice-Chair Olsen, and Members of the Committee,

We, the Coalition of Communities of Color (CCC), are writing to express our strong support for HB 2004 because all families should have access to safe, affordable housing.

The Coalition of Communities of Color is an alliance of 19 culturally-specific, community based organizations working to advance racial justice by addressing socioeconomic disparities, institutional racism, and inequity in services. In Oregon, rents are skyrocketing, families are being displaced from their homes, and many are struggling to find affordable housing. Communities of color are disproportionately impacted by the current housing crisis- often spending more than 30% or even 50% of their income on housing. That's unacceptable. Housing stability also broadly impacts community wellbeing including educational outcomes, community health, access to jobs and transit, and overall quality of life.

The Coalition of Communities hopes you will join us in our collective efforts to improve racial equity in Oregon by supporting HB 2004. We believe protecting tenants by requiring a legal cause for evictions and allowing local governments the flexibility to address rising housing costs would improve economic stability for struggling families who simply can't afford to move.

Sincerely,

Amanda Manjarrez

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amanda Manjarrez", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Advocacy Director
Coalition of Communities of Color

