



**DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF LANE COUNTY**

To: Oregon Senate Committee on Human Services  
From: Chris Wig, Chair, Democratic Party of Lane County  
Re: Support for HB 2004 A/Just-Cause Evictions

May 2, 2017

Dear Chair Gelser and Members of the Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the more than 100,000 Democrats in Lane County to urge you to vote Yes on House Bill 2004 A, which would alleviate the housing crisis in our state by creating and enforcing just-cause standards before Oregon families can be evicted from their homes.

Democrats in Lane County strongly believe that every Oregonian deserves a safe, stable and affordable place to call home.

I previously submitted testimony from the Democratic Party of Lane County (DPLC) in support of HB 2004. I believe the amendments made to the bill by the House Committee on Human Services and Housing strongly address salient criticisms of this proposed legislation.

I would also like to report that Senator Manning, the DPLC and the Stable Homes Coalition hosted a town hall meeting to solicit feedback on HB 2004 A from tenants and give marginalized renters the opportunity to tell their stories to legislators. Unfortunately, several landlords and realtors arrived in an attempt to hijack this event. In fact, several tenants reported after the event that they were unwilling to tell their story because they were afraid of retaliation, as their own landlords were in attendance.

It says a lot about a person (or a group of people) if they are willing to silence marginalized people through intimidation. This behavior is inconsistent with the community values that permeate public discourse in our Great State. Don't let the people who act like this win.

Please contact me if you have any questions or require additional information. I look forward to working with you to create a safe, prosperous and enduring Oregon.

Sincerely,

Chris Wig  
Chair  
Democratic Party of Lane County