

Chair Gelser and Human Services Committee members,

I am a 40-something professional who has lived in Oregon for more than 15 years. I have been an engaged and active community member and a renter in East Portland for nearly my entire adult life.

My family is employed and financially stable, and we have been good neighbors and tenants in all our homes. We love our community, even though we can't realistically afford to buy a home at today's prices. We pay our rent and our bills, we mow our lawn and clean up after our pets, and we want to remain in the community that we call home. However, because we, like 4 in 10 Oregonians, rent our home, we could be displaced with 30-90 days notice at any time, with no reason and no recourse.

Unexpected relocation is stressful and distressing for any family-- even families like mine, that are relatively high income. Expensive and traumatic unexpected moves cause even more disruption for struggling households and families with children. It hurts all Oregonians when 40% of our community doesn't have the stability of a home they can count on.

Please support HB 2004-- Oregon renters are important community members, and they deserve protection and stability. Stabilizing our renters will make our communities that much stronger for everyone!

Thank you,

Kimberly Armstrong