

Dear Oregon State Senators,

As a renter in Oregon, I strongly support House Bill 2004, which will, by your grace, remove the state pre-emption on badly needed rent stabilization laws and severely curtail the use of the no-cause eviction.

I have seen the testimony of many landlords and property managers on this issue, and I assure you, most landlords writing to you in opposition to HB2004 are doing so either in ignorance of the housing crisis or out of amoral or malevolent greed. In Portland, we've seen entire communities receive fantastic rent hikes--over 100% in at least one case, at Normandy Apartments in Northeast Portland--and complex-wide, indiscriminate no-cause evictions, simply because the landlord has seen the housing crisis unfold and has moved to capitalize on it, no matter how many lower-income and minority families they will displace or make homeless in the process. You don't need to be an expert, or an economist to recognize that there is a problem--you just have to read the news.

This state of affairs cannot continue. You must not allow it, and the voters of Oregon will not. Last fall, the people of Portland showed their resolve in ending the housing crisis by decisively electing grassroots pro-tenant candidate Chloe Eudaly over establishment candidate Steve Novick to city council. We're asking you to show the same resolve in standing along side us for the rights of the poor and working people. A vote of no is a vote for continuing the crisis.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Kyle Costaggini