

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to you to urge you to vote Yes on HB2004. Lifting the ban on rent control and ending no-cause evictions will be invaluable steps toward ending our statewide housing crisis.

We currently have people staying in abusive relationships because they can't afford to leave their abusers and move into new housing. We have luxury apartments sitting empty in Portland while homeless people are dying on our streets. Beaverton School District, where I run a community school program, has one of the highest (if not the highest) rates of homelessness in the state. No-cause evictions have been used as retaliation for everything from asking for simple repairs to calling the police on an abuser. It is time to put an end to this injustice.

In a time when our national Congress is showing a callous indifference to our most marginalized communities, you can set yourselves apart and take a real stand for those who have the least in our state.

I urge you to vote Yes on this bill.

Thank you,

Matt Chorpenning, MSW