

As a citizen of Deschutes County and the State of Oregon I urge you to strongly defend landlords and tenants against this injustice that is being proposed. I also own rental property and have a property management company here in Bend.

I represent many owners of rental property in Central Oregon that have put their life savings into rentals and are counting on these to see them through retirement. They have worked hard and are supplying rental housing for many here. Many have expressed that they are tired of the bureaucracy from Salem and are talking about selling their rentals and taking with them needed housing supply. Some have already made this decision. Central Oregon can't stand to lose this supply and the housing situation will only become worse. These houses will not be purchased by an investor for a rental, they will be bought by an owner that will occupy the house. The price of houses here in Bend isn't conducive to rent them out without a loss. I have seen fewer and fewer people purchasing houses to make them a rental. The investment is just not there at this time.

There are other solutions that we can come together on to solve this housing crisis. Punishing landlords and tenants is not the right way to go about this. Finding ways to build more housing and making land available to builders and investors will go far in resolving this crisis.

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