

Rules Committee,

Please help us have a voice. We have spent the last half century living in poverty. What we call 'California Poor.' My sister and I have lived together our entire lives because we could never afford to move apart, even though we worked and paid taxes a combined total of 50 years. In 2016 our rent went up \$200 dollars per month. We knew we had to leave the state or face homelessness for the second time in our adult lives. We chose Oregon to be close to our ageing mother. We chose Sweet Home because after seven years of unemployment and still no Disability determination for me, we needed to scale back our expenses. For the first time in our lives we own the four walls we live in. It's a 1977 trailer with a leaky roof, and we pay a modest rent on the space, but it's ours. We wanted to finally rest. We wanted to stop feeling like a financial whip was being cracked across our backs, every single month of our lives. We wanted food and housing security at the same time , for the first time. Being that we are both permanently disabled, we wanted to retire with a roof over our heads. We thought we had that, last year, when we moved to the lovely countryside of Oregon. Then Trump and the Republicans took over and decided to wage war on us. All the good work we did, all the taxes we paid, all the good citizenship and all the voting, has been rendered meaningless, because fewer than 80,000 people in this county, a few thousand miles away, decided watching the President's 'jazz hands' was of more value than keeping their breatheren off the streets. Each step we take towards Totalitarianism is a nail in our coffins. Please, for once, allow our votes to count.

Most respectfully,

Billie Abbott

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