

 From the Desk of
**Representative
Carla C. Piluso**



Oregon Alliance to End Violence Against Women



OAASIS
OREGON ABUSE ADVOCATES AND SURVIVORS IN SERVICE



Center for
**HOPE &
SAFETY**



The Oregon Alliance to End Violence Against Women, the Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force (SATF), the Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, Oregon Abuse Advocates and Survivors in Service, the Center for Hope and Safety (Marion County), My Sisters Place (Lincoln County), Clackamas Women's Services (Clackamas County), and HAVEN From Domestic and Sexual Violence (Wasco County) urge Support of HB 2004A.

Survivors and advocates across the state have identified housing stability as a top priority in both urban and rural communities, for the following reasons:

- Our current housing crisis has a disproportionate impact on women, and especially on victims of domestic and sexual violence.
- A recent report by the Women's Foundation of Oregon found that women who rent are the most cost-burdened in the state. The impact of a no-cause eviction or a sudden rent increase on a cost-burdened renter can cause homelessness, and the risk of violence.
- Women experiencing recent or ongoing domestic violence are far more likely to face eviction than other women. Victims are afraid to call 911 for help, for fear of landlord retaliation and eviction into a market with very low vacancy rates and high costs.
- Victims who found the courage to leave an abusive home often face no choice but to return to their abusers if they are displaced by a rent increase or a no-cause eviction.
- According to various studies, at least 30% of all homelessness for women is a direct result of domestic violence. Housing instability increases vulnerability, leading to higher incidents of sexual violence.

Safe and stable housing increase access to safety and opportunity. For survivors, residential stability is a key factor in recovering from abuse and establishing a safe and secure life. HB 2004A will protect survivors and their children from no-cause eviction and economic displacement. For all of these reasons, we urge your support.

SURVIVORS NEED HOUSING STABILITY

PLEASE VOTE YES ON HB 2004A