

January 31, 2019

To: Chair Fagan and Members of the Senate Housing Committee
Re: Support for SB 608, Tenant Protections

My name is Greg Delgado, and I am from Bend, Oregon. I am writing to urge your support for SB 608 and increased protection against unjust eviction and economic displacement for the 40% of Oregonians that rent their homes, including myself.

I have lived in my apartment in downtown Bend for nine years. I love my apartment, and the community I have been able to create around it. As a community leader, this space has provided a home for countless gatherings to prepare and plan for a wide range of community events from a Dia de Los Muertos celebration, to community meals, to political marches.

The rent continues to rise at a rate higher than I can keep up with and my landlord has hinted recently that I will be displaced soon. I will be removed from this neighborhood because the amount of available affordable housing is very scarce in this town.

I understand that sometimes the rent has to go up as inflation and other factors go up but how am I supposed to keep up if my income doesn't increase at the same rate. Please support SB 608, protect against some unfairness in our community and help us to maintain stability.

Greg Delgado
Bend, Oregon