

2/4/19

To : **The Senate Committee on Housing:**

The Honorable Sen. Shemia Fagan, Chair, and Vice-Chair , Sen. Fred Girod

Re: **SB608**

My name is Nancy Chute

I'm 70 years old and have lived in a mobile home park (for persons 65 yrs. & older) with my cat Pearl, for the past 9 years in SE Portland. I own my home.

Social Security is my only source of income : \$1,166/month.

The rent on my space has increased from \$345/month in 9 years, to \$560/month.

My monthly living expenses include: gas, electric, air conditioning, food, lift bus, cable and phone, food, prescriptions, supplies and other household items, totaling \$590/month. With rent, my total expenses = \$1,150/month.

With only \$16 left over, leaves me no money left for premiums for Medicare part B nor Dr. visit co-pays .

Adding to my situation:

The Mobil Home park has been sold twice. since I moved here. The last sale occurred in November 2018

We received a notice January 1st, that our rent would increase by **\$40 this coming May**, representing a **6% rent increase**—raising my rent to **\$600/m, leaving me \$24/m in the hole.**

For several years I've been paying over 50% of my income in rent. "I don't know what I'm going to do"

I have no family to move in with. My sister who lives in Washington, is also a renter and in the same boat as I am. I hate the thought of losing my home that I worked so hard to pay for.

How can we be expected to afford a 7% + CPI / 10% proposed rent increase every year? I 'm in the hole trying to pay a 6% increase.

The elderly will be forced out into the street, not letting us live comfortable, forcing us out by increasing the rent, how does this make sense?

We need protections now. SB 608 won't help us much.

Thank you for hearing my testimony