



February 4, 2019

Dear Chair Fagan, Chair Girod
Members of the Senate Housing Committee

I am writing on behalf of Hacienda CDC to support Senate Bill 608. Hacienda CDC is a Latino lead community development corporation with the mission of providing affordable housing, economic opportunities, homeownership support and wealth building services. In addition to this important work, we are also a part of the Living Cully Collaborative, which is working on anti-poverty and anti-displacement strategies, as well as building economic, environmental and social assets for the Cully neighborhood of Portland.

We support Senate Bill 608 because we believe that everyone needs a secure and safe home without the fear of being evicted for no reason or in retaliation, which can be difficult to prove in many cases. In addition, given our current affordable housing crisis, the State must take action to address the growing inequality among renters who have seen significant rent increases over the past few years. In our own neighborhood of Cully eighteen households, many with children, who lived in the Normandy Apartments were displaced when their investor owner decided to renovate the buildings and double the rents from \$620 per month to over \$1,350 per month. The families could simply not absorb such a tremendous rent increase. Without a statewide rent control, we can expect that this type of rent increase and displacement will happen again and again. We urge the passage of SB 608 to help families remain secure in their rental homes.

Sincerely,



Rose M. Ojeda, Director, Real Estate Development and Management