

From: [Beth Hope](#)
To: [HHS Exhibits](#)
Subject: SB 608
Date: Friday, February 15, 2019 4:05:06 PM

To: Chair Keny-Guyer, Vice-Chairs Noble and Sanchez, and Members of the House Human Services and Housing Committee

Re: Support for SB 608 (Tenant Protections)

I am writing to encourage your support for Senate Bill 608, which would provide protection for Oregon tenants of rental properties.

I work as an advocate and community response coordinator for the Tillamook County Women's Resource Center. As someone who serves victims of domestic and sexual violence, I have seen firsthand how critical housing stability is for these victims.

In rural Tillamook County, the cost and availability of affordable housing is almost nonexistent, especially for individuals who are the most vulnerable. Often no-cause evictions are used as tools to discriminate against victims. Women and children who are displaced by extreme rent increases or no-cause evictions are made more vulnerable to perpetrators of abuse or assault. Victims of violence who have managed to escape abuse often face no choice but to return to their abusers if their only other alternative is homelessness.

When stable—and safe—housing become a reality for victims of violence, they have the opportunity to rebuild their lives and the lives of their families.

Again and again, I have seen victims displaced without anywhere to live because of a lack of safe housing. They are forced to live in their cars, in an RV, or in a tent, none of which are safe and secure ways for them to live, especially with small children.

Please act now to pass SB 608, to prevent unjust no-cause evictions and to protect against extreme rent spikes.

Thank you so very much for considering my perspective as a person who serves victims of domestic and sexual violence.

With Gratitude,

beth

Beth Hope ([she/her pronouns](#))

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TCWRC serves survivors of all genders

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