

Dear Chair Keny-Guyer, Vice Chairs Noble and Sanchez, and Members of the Committee,

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My name is Sam Diaz. I recently returned to Portland, Oregon, after living in California for four years. As I search for more permanent housing, I feel the need to make housing costs a certainty. How can I find stable housing in a city that allows landlords to increase my rent upon each lease renewal? I faced the same rent hikes and uncertainty in California, too.

Knowing how much power landlords have over my monthly budget, I turned to Community Alliance of Tenants (CAT) for solutions. Along with 5,000 CAT members throughout Oregon, I ask that you please pass the tenant protections as quickly as possible, our communities depend on it.

Through CAT, I learned that Oregon is in a statewide housing crisis; not one community has been left untouched. In rural and urban places renters live everyday with the fear of either an unfair no-cause eviction or extreme rent increase. Oregon has been waiting for two years, and today even more people have experienced the threat of looming homelessness when that notice is taped to the door.

Will you please vote yes on SB 608 to help nearly 1.4 million Oregonians maintain safety and security in their homes?

Sincerely,
Sam Diaz

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Samuel Diaz
555 NW Park Ave, Apt 222
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