



**GINNY BURDICK
SENATE MAJORITY LEADER**

DATE: February 18, 2019

TO: Honorable Representative Keny-Guyer, Chair
House Committee on Human Services and Housing

FROM: Senate Majority Leader Ginny Burdick

SUBJECT: Senate Bill 608

Chair Keny-Guyer and Members of the Committee, for the record, my name is Ginny Burdick. I represent the people of Senate District 18, which includes the city of Tigard and portions of West Portland.

I'm here today to discuss Senate Bill 608. This bill limits rent increases and prohibits no-cause evictions for tenants who have lived in their homes for at least a year. These two provisions are crucial. The bill will limit rent increases to 7 percent per year plus CPI. It will prevent landlords from implementing extraordinary rent increases. It also will restrict them from kicking tenants out for no cause. The bill passed out of the Senate last Tuesday with a 17-11 vote in favor.

Dramatic rent increases and the fear of eviction continue to distress vulnerable communities throughout our state. Every Oregonian deserves stable, safe and secure housing. Working families cannot thrive without a secure place to live.

As a landlord myself, I understand the need to raise rents over time. Good landlords value their tenants. This bill establishes strong tenant protections while providing the flexibility needed for good landlords to continue renting their properties.

I strongly urge your support for Senate Bill 608.

