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

I am a residential real estate agent and the owner of Think Real Estate, the #10 real estate brokerage in the city of Portland. Last year we helped over 500 people buy and sell homes. My husband and I own 14 rental properties in the metro area. I've worked in real estate for 10 years and lived in Oregon for 17, and I love our state.

I whole-heartedly support SB 608 and ask you to lend your support as well.

As the housing market has accelerated in the last few years, I've been appalled at the way many landlords treat their tenants. We've seen dramatic increases in rents and the ability for unethical landlords to evict tenants at will, leading to instability and contributing to our growing homeless issue. This greed needs to be stopped, and SB 608 is a reasonable, smart way to do it.

I've considered the impact this bill would have on me personally and on other investors, and I've had countless conversations with other realtors and landlords, and I just don't see how this bill would have any negative impact on the way smart, ethical landlords treat their tenants. I think it is a very fair bill that still gives landlords plenty of latitude to raise rents as they need, but it provides tenants with much-needed support and stability.

SB 608 is a chance to tell every Oregonian that they deserve a stable home. Please work hard to ensure that it is passed. Thank you for your work!

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