

Submitter: Veronika Nunez
On Behalf Of: Adelante Mujeres
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: SB611

Dear Chair Fahey, Vice –Chairs Beese-Iverson and Kropf, and, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Veronika Nunez, and I am the Leadership and Advocacy Director at Adelante Mujeres. On behalf of my organization please accept this testimony in strong support of SB 611B, which is an important element to respond to our state's housing crisis.

We strongly urge you to pass SB 611B as a critical homelessness prevention strategy for seniors, families, individuals and communities across the state suffering from rent spikes.

In Adelante Mujeres we believe that having a safe place to call home is fundamental to thrive and contribute to society in meaningful ways.

We serve hundreds of families each year, mainly Latina women and their families. Our community has voiced that housing is one of their main concerns.

Families can't focus on raising their children, spending time with family or caring for the community if they must constantly worry about being evicted or not being able to afford a place to live.

Studies show that just a \$100 increase in median rents in a community is tied to a 9% increase in homelessness in that community. Our current law is allowing extreme rent spikes and the results are playing out in eviction court. Between October and March of this past year, the average was more than 2,000 eviction filings a month, and approximately 86% of all filings were due to unaffordable rent.

At a time when Oregon is experiencing some of the highest rates of homelessness in the nation, we cannot afford to let rent spikes go unchecked.

SB 611B is a reasonable proposal that will prevent extreme rent increases and displacements, while allowing landlords to take inflation into account and preserving the current law's ability to reset rents to market rates in between tenancies. New properties continue to be exempt from the law, ensuring there is no impact on new development.

On behalf of our community, please vote to pass SB 611B as soon as possible.

Kindly,

Veronika Nunez, Director of Leadership and Advocacy at Adelante Mujeres