

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Ana Castellanos, and I live in Ashland. I am an Oregon renter here to testify in favor of SB 799 because evictions must be rare and they must be fair. Too many people like me are at risk for homelessness if you do not pass this commonsense bill, as well as the rest of the Homelessness Prevention Package to increase rent assistance, limit rate increases, and increase the data available about Oregon's rental market.

Due to unforeseen reasons, I faced hardship in the Fall of 2021, and was faced with an eviction notice in December of 2021. I was so thankful for the SB Bill 891 during that time, because it provided me with the opportunity to apply for rental assistance and not become homeless, while I waited for the entire process to get approved, and for the Landlord to receive the funds.

I want you to personally know that it had helped me tremendously, as I don't have a family to help me, and I choose to live within my means, while obeying the laws of the land. I could have easily gone back to my old ways of getting the needed funds, simply by becoming manipulative and breaking the laws!

Thank you again for hearing this important bill and allowing us to speak. I hope you will listen to people like me and vote yes on SB 799 and the Homelessness Prevention Package.