

Submitter: Tom Harbolt

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB799

Please consider the unintended consequences of your actions. Rent Control and other restrictions such as the ones proposed in SB 799 ultimately limit the supply of housing. You need only look to California and other states for proof. I strongly encourage you to focus on other legislation that deters businesses from building more housing. You need to focus on supply.

Please consider that the state's rent program fails to focus on the damage that tenants do when living rent free in a unit. Just providing rent to landlords doesn't begin to address the economic harm that is enabled by the State's policies. An emergency by definition or common understanding is for a limited period of time. Emergencies traditionally are acts of nature like weather, a fire or a pandemic or perhaps war. Homelessness created by poor government policies related to housing supply and drug addiction is not an emergency. At some point, and I believe we have reached it, the State is simply abusing its emergency powers to achieve a desired result. The State should stop putting bandaids on problems and certainly stop requiring landlords to be the only ones that are required to pay for this "emergency".