

Submitter: Lauren Everett

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB799

I'm a tenant, tenant organizer and advocate, work in the housing department of a government agency, and have a doctorate in urban studies with a focus on housing policy. What I have learned through all of these experiences is that our state is in an eviction crisis and the need for relief is overwhelming.

As a volunteer with Portland Tenants United, we are inundated with tenants in crisis and at risk of eviction and homelessness. The timeline to remedy a termination notice is impossibly short, and landlords are not required to accept rental assistance. This is deeply dysfunctional and inequitable.

I know you will hear many opposing arguments from the landlord lobby. Please understand that they will oppose literally ANY change to the status quo, no matter how many people it has the potential to help. They've been doing so for many decades. Please don't let them drown out the voices of renters, who are already drowning in our broken housing system.

Sincerely,
Lauren E.M. Everett, PhD
North Portland