

Chair Jama, Vice-Chair Anderson, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Miss Quay'Roenel Matthews and I live in Portland, Gateway Neighborhood which is in District 24. I am an Oregon renter and a proud RAC member at Our Just Future. I'm submitting testimony in favor of SB 603. The People's Housing Assistance Fund will create a pathway for guaranteed income in Oregon so that Oregonians have the resources they need to thrive. Guaranteed income is a way to recognize everyone's inherent dignity, it provides agency and increased opportunity.

I am an expert in navigating the housing system as I'm an alumni of homelessness. I know what it feels like to sleeping on the floor, someone's couch, and shelters. There is nothing like having your own key. I graduated from a program that provided me with move-in fees and first few months of rent. This was a much needed support; without them I would not have been able to transition and be where I am today. I'm blessed and I know many in my community don't have access to this program and the resources. I still face the uncertainties of life being on low-income. A \$1000 can relieve the unnecessary stress of making ends meet every month. Not having enough money is one the largest stressors in my household.

Thank you for hearing this important bill and for considering my testimony. I hope you will listen to people like me and vote yes on SB 603.

Miss Quay'Roenel Matthews