

Submitter: Sheila Barnett
On Behalf Of: American Campus Communities
Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development
Measure: SB611

My name is Sheila Barnett and I have lived and work in Eugene for the past 7 years. I have worked in the rental housing industry for 12 years. Please vote NO on SB 611. Housing Oregonians at the sole expense of those providing their housing is not sound public policy and is not a sustainable way to address housing instability. We need to focus on permanent rent assistance and increasing supply. Rent prices are set by several factors like rising utility and insurance costs, inflation, increases in the cost of maintenance and payroll, and local tax burdens. All of these costs are only increasing. If the state wants to achieve the goal of 36,000 new housing units per year, we cannot pass this bill. More rent control will only disincentivize new development and ownership of rental units. This bill leads us further away from our housing goals.