

February, 10th, 2023

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

Re: Support for SB 611 Reasonable rent increase

My name is Alexis Ames, and I am here to support SB 611, The Reasonable Rent Limit Bill, on behalf of the Community Alliance of Tenants.

As the membership-based statewide association of tenants, we assist in organizing and advocating for renters for fair and equitable protection in housing practices and legislation. Rent increases have a direct impact on our members.

In particular, seniors who struggle with limited budgets frequently contact our hotline worried and distressed about losing their homes due to unaffordable rent increases.

An affordability crisis is affecting tenants across the state. Many tenants are finding it difficult to make ends meet due to the rent cost growing faster than income.

In addition, this bill would help to stabilize the rental market by limiting rent increases; landlords would be incentivized to keep their tenants longer, reducing the cost of turnover and vacancies. This would benefit both landlords and tenants as landlords would have more reliable income and stability.

I urge you to pass Senate Bill 611 and provide much-needed relief to Oregon renters. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Alexis Ames

Southern Oregon Regional Organizer

Community Alliance of Tenants

Email: alexis@oregoncat.org

Phone: 360-713-7312

