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On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB611

The passage of SB 611 will prevent many communities from experiencing an existential crisis.

Outside of the excruciating effects the rent crisis is having on families and individuals, the rent crisis is affecting the financial stability of our communities. I live in the Brookings/Harbor area, where there are many who had been enjoying affordable living in retirement. Brookings is a small town that, like other small towns, struggled to survive the dire Covid impacts to local businesses. We retirees did our best to support our local small businesses to help see them through the worst of the financial impacts.

But the rent raises are erasing our discretionary funds. Instead of our money supporting local stores, restaurants, charities, etc. our money is now disappearing out of state or even out of our country.

I live in a manufactured home park with no amenities. I own my home, but I pay rent on the space my home sits on. In the past three years my rent has increased enough to make me think that I can no longer afford to live in my home. But if I sell my manufactured home, I can't afford to buy another home in this community as home prices here, like everywhere else, has increased greatly. I'd probably would have to leave my hometown.

But I may not really have the option to sell. The space rent increases have made this park unattractive to potential buyers.

Every community in Oregon should examine the impact these unconscionable rent increases have in their local area. Every Oregon municipality should support the passage of SB 611.

Shame on the heartless Landlords. Of course investment funds have no heart. Oregon must protect its citizens from these vampires.