

Submitter: Cory Pinckard

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB611

Dear Chair Jama, Vice Chair Anderson and Members of the Senate Committee on Housing and Development,

Please vote yes on Senate Bill 611.

Everyone in Oregon deserves safe and stable housing but our high rental costs and housing inequities are forcing families out of their homes. While the Oregon housing market provides skyrocketing property wealth for landlords, renters have nothing to fall back on when their monthly costs rise beyond their paychecks.

Very few people can afford a 14.6% housing cost increase. Getting an increase that high may as well be an eviction notice for Oregon renters.

SB 611 is a reasonable approach. Allowable annual rent increases for current tenants will be more predictable for current tenants and more homes will be protected. And between tenants, landlords can charge whatever the market will bear for vacant units.

SB 611 does not solve all the inequities in our housing market, but it is an important step to more fairness and is an essential element in the legislature's response to the state's housing and homelessness crisis.

We need to make extant housing affordable and we need public housing as the failures of the market have proven with the scattered, shattered lives of millions upon millions of Americans here in the US. There is so much empty housing serving as financial assets in investment portfolios of hedge fund and permanent capital cretins instead of as direly needed shelter for Americans. These unnecessary anonymous office buildings and homogeneously hideous petrochemical yuppie kennel condos priced out of financial reach of the workforce aren't making housing more accessible by the developers of mediocrity (ever unhelpful and undesirable to the taxpayer residents of e.g. Portland) by "adding to supply" or affordability, but instead, are intentionally causing housing to be more expensive and less attainable as they artificially inflate the market that then causes cost of living to skyrocket. Actual houses should be affordable for everyone as a societal standard with an economy that isn't allowed to rob people of it. Our building code needs to be improved drastically to ensure sustainably made, energy efficient housing.

The supply and demand oversimplification is a known false narrative

misrepresentation frequently used as a disingenuous ploy of parasitic, societally toxic, necrotic price gouging corporate slumlords and profiteering developers of blight who knock down our cherished structures and affordable housing stock to then exploit tenants mercilessly. Simply building more just isn't the answer whether wealthy sociopaths like it or not. We cannot outbuild the greed of private equity firms. Allowing society to regress into another gilded age by allowing feudalism to exist in modern America is pathetic and we need to evolve beyond an economy that cancerously consumes society.

The entire city could be nothing but the tacky garbage housing being forced on us at infinite stories high and it'd still be unaffordable to most real people.

Housing is supposed to shelter people, not exploitative profits. We need rent caps; Housing, in a humane and sane society is for people having homes; it's not for speculative investing, permanent capital, private equity or any of the other euphemistic titles predatory sociopaths cloak themselves in. It's errant and always socially destructive to allow societal necessities to be commodified and exploited as consumerist products.

Please vote yes on SB 611 to prevent more high-rent homelessness in our communities.

Sincerely,
Cory Pinckard