

Submitter: Rita Loberger

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,

I am an 81 year old widow who has just received my 90 day notice of rent increase. This amount this year is \$93 a month.

My social security only pays \$2013 a month and many times the new rent amount (to be \$1099 in June) comes with our water and sewer charges of up to \$200. This leaves me very little for the remainder of my bills and living expenses for the rest of the month. I have lived here for 25 years and when my husband passed, my income no longer covers these expenses. I have to resort to digging into my savings to cover expenses. This cannot go on for long. I have no place else to reside and am becoming very concerned as to what will happen this year. Your vote for me would be 'yes' as many residents in my area are under similar circumstances.

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.

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

Sincerely,
Rita Loberger