

Submitter: Ken Thomas

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3503

Dear Chair Dexter and members of the Housing Committee on Housing and Homelessness,

My name is Ken Thomas and I live in Portland. I write to you in support of HB 3503, which addresses the critical need for rental stability in our state.

I have moved three times in the past two years due to rent instability. I move into a place, then I get news of rental increases. In one case the rental increase was the max legal amount down to the penny. State-wide rent control does not address the needs of individual communities and we need to allow these communities to make these choices for themselves.

Rent control help to stabilize tenants in their homes, but can also have various other effects on the housing market. That is one of the reasons HB 3503 is such an important bill. The suite of solutions for our housing crisis may not look the same in Portland as it does in Salem, or Eugene, or Klamath Falls, or John Day, or Pendleton. As each community tries to address the housing crisis, the State of Oregon should not hold back any tools. Regardless of what you think of rent control, please let our communities decide if it's a tool that will work well for us by voting yes on HB 3503.

Sincerely,
Ken