

Submitter: E and H A

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3503

To: Chair Dexter and members of the committee

From: E.A. & H.A, Tillamook County

Re: Lifting the Ban on Local Rent Control - HB 3503

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB3903. We are writing to support HB 3503 because we understand the impact that rent hikes have had on residents, particularly of lower and middle income, who are struggling to afford housing in a climate where rent increases have far outpaced wage increases. Many young families are struggling to meet basic needs while spending large percentages of their income on rental housing that does not build equity for their future. In our area, in particular, long-term rentals are in very short supply and those that exist are often rented for prices that far exceed what one would otherwise pay in a mortgage if one were fortunate enough to have a sufficient means for a down payment, which is increasingly unattainable for ours and younger generations. The market dynamics of the past two years have provided particularly harsh housing conditions as market rates for both home rentals and home sales skyrocketed in our area during the pandemic. Working class folks, including fellow parents and teachers at our school are struggling to find affordable housing and many people are being driven out of their current homes, neighborhoods, and lives due to unaffordable and unpredictable rent increases. We support a reverse on the ban on local rent control so that areas such as ours can implement much needed measures to contribute money and stability to those who need it most.

Sincerely,  
E.A. & H.A.  
Tillamook County