

Submitter: Betty Holladay
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: SB611

Hello Chair Fahey and Members of the Committee,

My name is Betty Holladay. I am testifying in support of SB 611B. I'm a lifelong renter and a member of the Community Alliance of Tenants and its policy committee. As a 73 year old single retiree, I, like many others, am being squeezed on both ends by high inflation and high rents.

Recently, the on-site manager at my apartment complex told me that effective January 1 of this year, rents had been increased by 12%. This is double the percentage amount enacted last year. If this 12% increase stands, my current rent would rise by \$232.00 a month effective next November. For me, others like me, and many more not as privileged as I am, these kind of rent increases are NOT sustainable.

Senate Bill 611B provides reasonable and necessary rent stabilization for tenants. Without its passage, the 2023 rate cap of 14.6% will continue to be in effect.

At a time when Oregon is experiencing some of the highest rates of homelessness in the nation, we cannot afford to let rent spikes go unchecked.

I strongly urge you to pass SB 611B as a critical homelessness prevention strategy for rent-burdened seniors, families, individuals and communities across the state. It is an action that the legislature can take now to have an immediate impact on our state's housing crisis while we ramp up our efforts to build more affordable places to live for all Oregonians.

Thank you.

Betty Holladay
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