

February 27, 2023

Chair Jama, Vice Chair Anderson, Members of the Committee:

My name is Kris Boudreau and I am a 75-year old senior living in the Eugene Hotel Retirement Center here in Eugene. I strongly urge passage of SB 611, which addresses the critical need for rental stability in Oregon.

The reality of the housing emergency grabbed my attention when the new California-based owners, notified its senior residents that our rent would be increased 14% in 2023. The former owners (local citizens of the Eugene community) had increased the rent an average of 3% per year. The sudden and sheer increase in rent is generally viewed by our residents as excessive and unsustainable (for us) in the future. Since November, several residents have moved out; within the past week, three more announced their departure by the end of the month. Likewise, some key senior staff members left the hotel during the last several months due reportedly to the lack of benefits offered by hotel employment. Oregon's vulnerable communities, low and fixed income individuals and families, women and minority advocates, and young adult and senior individuals and families are paying an unfair for unjust laws that destabilize too many lives. I strongly urge you to pass SB 611 as quickly as possible.

If you have questions or want to contact me, I can be reached at 217.314.9503. Thank you for your consideration and your public service.

Sincerely,

Kris Boudreau