

January 30, 2023

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

My name is Mary Dougherty. I am 71 years old and have been disabled for 20 years. Fifteen months ago, I made a significant shift in life style and moved into the Eugene Hotel, a retirement community here in Eugene.

Careful with my limited resources--receiving only Social Security after 30 years in social services for children--I planned for an annual increase of 5% to 7% in housing expenses. The legislative increase of 14.6% for rent is forcing me out of my current residence. I will be moving out of my retirement home effective February 28, 2023.

I am in full support of SB611 to pull back to a less predatory rate of increase, especially those affecting the elderly and disabled.

I will understand some landlords suffering during the Pandemic and I also well understand that others become predators ask and received government assistance during the same period. Corporations owning this real estate our elderly and disabled depend on are not the victims in these times. You have been elected to represent all the people. Your integrity, honesty and transparency is what will continue to get you elected.

Leveling the playing field in a fair and equitable format--because with this 14.6% increase, we're getting wiped out, again.

Sincerely,

Mary Dougherty