

Submitter: Jay Hunt

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB611

Dear Chair and members of of the Housing Committee,

My name is Jay and I am a renter in Washington County, Oregon. I am a member of my union AFSCME Local 88 and an active member of my community. And today, I come here extremely proud of the work the Community Alliance of Tenants does by educating and empowering tenants to demand safe, stable and affordable rental homes. We believe that housing is the basis of a strong community.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. I am speaking in support of SenateBill 611. I know through my work in human services and my personal experience as a renter that evictions in Oregon are skyrocketing to historical rates, increasing homelessness and threatening the security for countless families across the State. This is in part because rent prices have begun to price tenants out of their housing. Senate Bill 611 is a reasonable solution to a growing problem.

If the last two or three years has shown all of us nothing else, it has shown us the importance of reforms that provide tenants the right to stay in their homes with dignity and implement some of the lessons from the pandemic.

Thank you again for hearing this important bill and allowing me to speak. I hope you will listen to people like me and vote yes on HB 611 and the Homelessness Prevention Package.

Jay H