

The logo consists of two rows of three stylized shapes. The top row shapes are blue, red, and blue. The bottom row shapes are blue, red, and blue. To the right of these shapes, the text "CONSOLIDATED OREGON" is on the top line and "INDIVISIBLE NETWORK" is on the bottom line, both in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

CONSOLIDATED OREGON INDIVISIBLE NETWORK

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I'm writing today on behalf of Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN) to express strong support for SB 611. COIN is made up of Indivisible groups from across Oregon that collaborate to protect democracy and implement progressive values. The 14.6% allowable rent increase for 2023 is shocking and cannot be repeated in future years. The current law allowing unlimited rent increases in newer buildings for 15 years is untenable for most families. The changes proposed in SB 611 allow for reasonable rent increases and a 3-year exemption for newer buildings. We must bring the housing costs in this state in line with income to prevent the worsening of this homeless crisis and unfair outcomes for people who are black, indigenous and people of color.

ACLU research shows that Black women in Oregon are twice as likely to face eviction as white renters. BIPOC Oregonians are more likely to be renters because of systemic barriers to housing and employment. People are living on the edge financially. According to the state economist, more than 50% of Oregon renters do not have enough money left over for food, medicine, and basic necessities. When people on the edge get evicted, it is all too easy to fall into homelessness.

COIN seeks to implement our progressive values through voter outreach and education, campaigns and elections, holding our elected leaders accountable, and advocating for legislation that best reflects our values. We urge you to pass SB 611.

Respectfully,

Tamara Babad
COIN Legislative Team

