

Submitter: Ronnie Scarper

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3054

I am Senior, Widower and Veteran on a fixed income. My income is derived from Social Security, small pensions and a 20% VA disability. This amounts to approximately \$3200.00/month. When my wife died, due to Cancer, I lost approximately \$1.150.00/mo. income.

I live in a Senior manufactured home park. I own my home, but not the property. The monthly rent is, at the present time, \$1168.00/month + Water. Management has informed us that we can expect the rent to increase at the maximum rate every year. The math works out to my rent being over \$2,000.00/month, in about 6 years.

This year's increase was \$105.00. My COLA was \$53.00. Medicare went up \$10.00.

My Medicare plan increased the deductible and copay. It doesn't take much to see that I am going further behind every year. This may not sound like a lot to you, but all of this puts me closer to losing my home and having no place to go. I have taken on a living partner,

who also had to leave her living situation, due to increased cost of living. There are many in my park that are not and have not been as fortunate. Because of the increases, Chaotic management, and health needs, they have had to sell or those with resources have left the homes for sale and move to other locations.

We have had to endure "4 Corner inspections" with no guidance as to what they are looking for. Arbitrary notices of 10 days to fix the issues, without clear ideas of what they are talking about. Also, demanding clean up of yards in the dead of winter. They even sent out a 24 hour notice that said the inspection may not occur for 2 or 3 days or even a week.

They closed our Clubhouse in mid November for renovations, that they said would be done by the beginning of January. Now it is moved to mid March. This is without any compensation in our rent. They did give us a \$25.00 See's Candy gift card. Diabetes anyone.

Seniors daily wonder whether their retirement savings are going to last. We looked for a low income solution to living our remaining time in reasonable comfort, Safety, and limited worry. This appeared to be an answer. It has over the last 4 years, because of Management, Inflation(Rent, Food, Healthcare, Energy, etc.), become a source of constant stress.

HB 3054 would go a long way to help all Seniors and Veterans to sleep better and be able to devote more toward a healthy lifestyle, feeling safe, and less stress about retirement savings disappearing.

Please pass this bill. I have looked for alternative living situations. None exist. I cannot qualify for any assistance. I cannot meet the requirements for most apartments due to my income. I worked hard all my life and asked for nothing.

Because of Rent, Inflation, and health, I could be out on the streets at some point. I

know that Oregon is grappling with this in a big way. Pass this bill to help keep housing more affordable for everyone and to keep homelessness from being an even larger issue.