

March 18th, 2025
Senate Committee on Housing and Development
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St NE Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for SB 722

Chair Pham, Vice-Chair Anderson, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Angel Rosado, and I am writing in strong support of SB 722 and SB 611 to address the ongoing discrimination, unfair treatment, and financial strain that renters like myself experience due to unchecked rent increases and lack of tenant protections.

As a renter, I have faced discrimination and unequal treatment from my landlord, who imposes different rules on my household compared to my white neighbors. This hostile environment has led to unnecessary tensions, including an incident where the police were called on us during a simple house meeting. No tenant should have to live in fear or be subjected to discriminatory housing practices.

Beyond these discriminatory practices, my household—like so many others—is struggling with relentless rent increases. Even with Portland’s 10% cap, these hikes quickly become unmanageable, making it nearly impossible to keep up with rising costs. Working overtime just to afford rent leaves no room to save, plan for the future, or improve our living situation. Housing should be stable and accessible, not a constant financial burden forcing people out of their homes.

Additionally, tenants like myself have little access to meaningful legal support. Many legal aid organizations are overwhelmed, leaving renters without clear guidance on termination notices, lease disputes, and landlord retaliation. Without proper tenant protections, landlords exploit loopholes, leaving renters feeling powerless in their own homes.

This is why SB 722 and SB 611 are so critical. SB 722 will extend rent stabilization protections to thousands of Oregonians by reducing the new construction exemption, ensuring that more tenants are protected from unreasonable rent hikes. Additionally, it will prohibit the use of price-fixing AI software that artificially inflates rents, prioritizing corporate profits over tenant stability. SB 611 strengthens tenant protections by ensuring that rent increases remain fair and predictable, preventing sudden and extreme hikes that push families out of their homes.

Stable housing is not a privilege—it is a right. Oregon must take action to protect its renters by passing SB 722 and SB 611. Thank you for your time and for your commitment to ensuring fairness and stability in our housing system.

Sincerely,
Angel Rosado