

Dear Chair Keny-Guyer, Vice Chairs Noble and Sanchez, Members of the Committee,

I am writing to share about my experience as a landlord and to thank you for advancing SB 608.

Although I rent only one apartment, I recognize that it's more than just income for me to offset the cost of my duplex. This is more than just a business arrangement. I have a responsibility to provide housing to another family and of course appreciate the need for fairness and stability for that family.

There's no question that the lack of housing stability in our community is creating significant suffering and pain as well as discord in neighborhoods and business districts. This is a complex and multifaceted challenge that no one policy can fix, but ensuring that tenants have reasonable protections from unfair property management practices as well as inappropriate rent increases is one critical step. Since this is a community-wide problem, we *all must participate in the solution* even if that includes changing our property management practices.

Since purchasing my property in 2004 in SE Portland, I have been able to rent the 2nd unit in my duplex for an ever-increasing amount. I have been able to cover my costs and make a profit without putting undue burden on my tenant. I will be able to continue to do so under the reasonable and balanced provisions of SB 608.

Our communities are depending on the Legislature to act to provide basic protections and stability. We know we need to address a range of issues to solve the housing problems our communities are facing, and it is critical the Legislature act now to pass SB 608. Please vote yes on SB 608.

Thank you for your public service and for working so hard on this critical issue. I appreciate you taking time to read my letter.

Best regards,

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Life is short. And we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us. Oh, be swift to love, make haste to be kind.

– Journal entry, December 16, 1868

Henri Amiel