

Rosenberg Corey

From: Rosalie N <rosalie.nowalk@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 02, 2017 3:52 PM
To: SHS Exhibits
Subject: House Bill 2004 testimony for May 3 hearing

Hello.

I am a renter. I live in Oregon City. I live in the top of an old house. The bottom level has a family of four. I pay \$1200 a month. I can hear everything that goes on below. Also, in my unit, there is only heat in one room. ☹ I used to live in a place like this before, in 2008. However, rent was half the price.

My next-door neighbor says the landlord (who is also my landlord) just raised her rent \$125 a month. She only gave her two months' notice for the increase, even though last year the legislature passed a new tenant protection that says 90 days' notice must be given for a rent increase.

This landlord also said in the rent increase letter that she was raising the rent (which was way over 10%, by the way) because of the **Portland market**. Well ... but ... this is Oregon City! ☹

I wish I could buy my own home so I wouldn't have to worry so much about greedy and ignorant landlords. I love / hate to go to Open Houses to see what I could have bought if things hadn't gotten so out of control.

In fact, last weekend I stopped by an Open House here in Oregon City and when I went inside, I saw and heard a prospective buyer talking with the Realtor holding the Open House. The prospective buyer said they were looking for a second home. Then the Realtor went on and on about how this particular home would make a great investment. I didn't have to guess why. Renters make great slaves.

But anyway, I have to say that I saw red. Something just came over me. I had to say something so I immediately told them both that in order for life to be fair and good for people, no one should be allowed to own two homes until everyone has at least one. (I was assuming they were at least familiar with what it means to be fair / good).

They laughed. They thought I was kidding. Really? People who are in the business of housing (Realtors) laugh at the thought of someone having a place to sleep at night? That, to me, is very telling. And it is so depressing.

These folks who hold the keys to our homes are not going to voluntarily care about anyone but themselves. That is why we need renter protections.

Please vote YES on House Bill 2004.

Thanks for listening.

Rosalie Nowalk
715 10th Street, Oregon City, OR
503-997-9070
May 2, 2017