

Rosenberg Corey

From: Michael Thrailkill <mwtpdx@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 02, 2017 11:12 PM
To: SHS Exhibits
Subject: Tenant rights and renting concerns

Chair Gelser, Vice Chair Olsen, and Members of the Committee- I am aware of the pending legislation to lift the ban on rent control and other issues facing renters and landlords rights, and am encouraged to share my story.

I am a single father, sharing custody equally of my two teenage children with their mother. I have been a renter for the past 3-1/2 years, first in a one bedroom apartment in northwest Portland for a year, with my kids sleeping in bunk beds in the living room, for \$1,250/ month. Then we moved into another one bedroom apartment in northeast Portland for a year because the rent was better, at \$1,000/ month, where I was the one to sleep in the living room. For the past year and a half we have lived in a two bedroom house in Multnomah Village with my partner and the kids (half-time), which we rent for \$1,950/ month.

When I first moved to Portland with my children's mother, we rented a two bedroom house in Portland near Providence Hospital month-to-month from the owner, a retired woman, for \$850. She was pleasant and we got along well; we were able to make repairs as needed.

The house we rent now is managed by a ruthless management company that has raised the rent twice, each time just under the allowable increase with less than three months notice. The absentee landlord has done nothing to improve the property, and the manager has been very difficult to work with. We appear to be simply like 'meat in a locker', with the actual client being the owner. I recently saved enough to go back into home ownership, and I am excited and relieved to be out of this vicious circle of renting - I never felt like that before, renting in Miami, in New Haven, and in portland prior to 2002.

-Michael

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