

Rosenberg Corey

From: Laura Shugart <Laura.Shugart@tprojects.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2017 7:27 AM
To: SHS Exhibits
Cc: Sen Courtney
Subject: HB 2004A

I am writing in support of HB 2004A! I sincerely wish that this bill passes, as I not only work as a housing case manager and see every day the impact of rent increases and no-cause evictions, but personally am facing the same challenges. Although I work in Multnomah County, I live in Washington County, which has not implemented new laws about the current housing crisis. In the past four months, I have personally received 2 rent increases. I have lived in my apartment for over 13 years. I love where I live: the community, the schools, and the convenience of public transportation. I do not have resources to pay for relocation, and would be devastated to move my child from the school district he has been in his whole life. I firmly believe that moving him now, would be detrimental. I live in a relatively low-income property, although it is not a tax credit property. Over the past 13 years, I have noticed that the children that have grown up there, and have not been forced to move many times over their childhood, have fared well. Although these families have dealt with typical challenges including parents struggling financially, with addiction, domestic violence, incarceration, etc, these family have produced children that have finished high school, and have all gone on to college. I have had the joy of seeing some of the kids come back on holidays to see their parents (who are still living at the complex), and they are all doing amazing things. I think of this often, why have these children turned out so well, when they have struggled with many societal problems that usually end up causing difficulty in young adulthood? I have come to the conclusion that it had to do with housing stability, having a firm community around them, and consistency in where they are going to school. Keeping kids and families in their homes is so important. If my rent continues to rise at the rate it has been, I will be forced to find new housing, and unfortunately I am residing now in one of the most affordable units in my area, and would be forced out of the area, meaning my employment may have to change due to transportation, and my son (who is a sophomore) would have to change high schools. My son at the moment in a straight A student, active in the Thespian Society, head of stage crew for drama, part of publication and yearbook, in the choir, and received many academic awards. He is on a path towards amazing things, despite his economic disadvantage. To make him move would potentially effect the rest of his life. I ask you to Vote Yes! Thank you for looking out for working families!

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from homelessness to housing

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