

Rosenberg Corey

From: kjmccarty@comcast.net
Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2017 10:27 AM
To: SHS Exhibits
Cc: Sen Courtney; Sen Frederick
Subject: Support HB 2004A

Dear Chair Gelser, Vice Chair Olsen, and Members of the Committee,

I am a resident of Portland that works for the city of Portland. I live in the St. Johns neighborhood. In recent years I have seen the impact of no cause evictions. Whole apartment buildings of my neighbors evicted. Never to return. Many were people of color like myself. For my kids this is distressing. Good friends leave. They do not move a few blocks away, they are moving to Salem, Vancouver and even further, in search of a place they can afford. For the kids that leave it may mean changing schools multiple times per year. From either perspective, it is heart breaking that our communities are so transient. The Latino community that has brought a successful vibrancy to the commercial district of St. Johns is at risk of moving too because so many Latino residents are being pushed out by rising rents.

I also bring the perspective of a Fair Housing expert for the City of Portland. People of color and others that experience discrimination in Portland have fewer housing choices and are more vulnerable to eviction. Historic racial discrimination in employment, education, and housing are at the root of today's housing access problem. No-cause eviction is a tool that can be used to disguise discrimination. When we know that fair housing discrimination still happens, as evidenced by the disproportionate disparities in access to housing, we need to make Fair Housing protections stronger through for-cause eviction rules. As a former property manager, I know that it is possible to manage a property for the safe enjoyment of all residents without resorting to tools that do not include due process. Almost half of Oregonians are renters who need protection from eviction without cause and from extreme and sudden rent increases. This is a law that protects the interests of everyone. We cannot build our way out of this problem. Please support HB 2004A to provide fairness and stability for the millions of Oregonians who are renters.

Sincerely,

Kim McCarty
9595 N Lombard St.
Portland, OR 97203