

Rosenberg Corey

From: Mrrranda Tarrow <mrrranda@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 05, 2017 2:40 PM
To: SHS Exhibits
Subject: Please vote yes on HB2004

While I agree that the most damage has been done to people with more limited incomes and resources than mine, please realize that the rapid spike in rent costs is also affecting tenants who, up until a few years ago, could comfortably live and accurately be described as middle class.

I was working as a medical records clerk, a position I held for about five years, making around \$30k when was priced out of an apt I'd had for 3.5 years. I was blindsided by a \$210/month increase, well over the 10% threshold for the extremely limited legislation the city of Portland already has. It took me over eight months to find a new (smaller, more run-down, less safe) place I could afford.

During the months I spent staying in friends' spare rooms with the majority of my possessions in storage, my health suffered and my job performance suffered. My ability to "better myself" and potentially attain a position where I could afford higher rents was compromised by my displacement. I put decisions regarding continuing education on hold, because I didn't know how much of my budget could be diverted from rent to education, and because I didn't want to enter a program I would have to quit midway if I was priced out of the city. It also made me wary of seeking a higher-paying job, because I still didn't know if I'd have to move somewhere that would make for a difficult commute.

By the way, I moved to Portland ten years ago. Before then, I lived in Michigan for most of my life, split with some time in *New York City.* I've seen first hand how rent control preserves communities and neighborhoods, by stabilizing individual lives.

Please vote yes on HB2004. We need rent control now.

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