

Rosenberg Corey

From: Melissa Poland <melissawpoland@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 05, 2017 4:53 PM
To: SHS Exhibits; Sen Hass; Rep Barker
Subject: A home-insecure renter in Washington County

Hi,

I had to quit my job in SE Portland last year because the commute of 13.5 miles was taking over an hour and to move closer to my work, in the Ladd's Addition neighborhood, would have been as much as my rent plus the cost of leasing a new Porsche Cayenne.

The economics don't work for renters who have to commute long distances to their jobs in the city. Even more difficult are parents of young children, the cost of childcare, gas and time away from my family was more than I, an educated woman in the healthcare field, could afford monthly.

My husband and I can not afford to live in Multnomah county, even though that is where we both held jobs. I had to leave my job when the cost of commuting and childcare exceeded my income.

Even with a lower rent in Washington County, we are rent-insecure. We are watching other rentals evict tenants to sell units or do shoddy face lifts in order to double the rent currently collected. Our rent in this shabby duplex has increased hundreds of dollars without any repairs or upgrades in the four years we have been here.

We have no lease, no leverage, and if we want something fixed or repaired we have to do it ourselves.

We are at the mercy of the landlord, we have no rights, can be evicted at anytime, have to suffer with infestations, sub standard conditions or pay out of our own pocket for no equity or return on our investment in the livability of the properties we call home.

This is where I brought my daughter home from the hospital, where we sing twinkle-twinkle, play in the sprinkler and planted a garden. But, I have no rights to the sweat equity I put into this home, I can be kicked out any moment.

It is a scary place to live, at the whim of a landlord.

However you look at it, we lose.

Please consider the testimony of the tenants when voting on HB 2004.

Thanks,

Your loyal voting Oregon Family,

The Polands

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