

Rosenberg Corey

From: Joshua Baker <jfrancisrussell@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 05, 2017 4:54 PM
To: SHS Exhibits
Cc: Sen Courtney
Subject: Support HB2004

Friday 5 May, 2017

Chair Gelser, Vice Chair Olson, And Members of the committee,

I am writing you urging you to support HB 2004. If the current housing crisis continues to escalate while incomes for low wage workers continue to stagnate, the wellness of the City of Portland will be in jeopardy.

The diversity of our community is our strongest asset our neighborhood of Creston-Kenilworth maintains. Our neighborhoods are a mix of single family owner occupied homes, duplexes, as well as large capacity apartment buildings. That means that a large percentage of our neighbors are at risk for losing their housing and will have little option but to move further away from the networks their lives interact with.

Oregon's communities need service workers to make their communities work. If they can no longer afford to live close to their work, they may seek work closer to where they relocate. The environmental impact of adding all the commuting miles for workers to get to their city center jobs.

The city is stronger if its communities remain strong. Oregon benefits with a better social health, when residents feel like community members and stake holders. It benefits on preventing crime as longer term residents feel a responsibility to speak up when they see criminal activity. Residents are more likely themselves to conduct their lives with pride, integrity, responsibility.

Its people that make Portland's various communities so vibrant. When people become displaced due to increased housing costs, the communities lose those strong ties.

I hope you will commit to protecting Oregon's low-wage working families by passing HB2004. It won't solve the problem, but it is a start we cannot afford to dismiss.

Sincerely, Joshua Baker

Creston-Kenilworth,

Portland, Oregon