

PRESS RELEASE

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Oregon House Votes to Increase Stability for Manufactured Home Park Residents

SALEM – Oregonians living in the many manufactured home parks throughout the state are one step closer to having more stability in their communities following the passage of House Bill 2008.

The bill increases the payments park owners must pay tenants when a park closes and tenants are forced to relocate. It also requires the Office of Manufactured Dwelling Park Community Relations to recalculate those payments annually to keep up with inflation. It has been more than a decade since those payments were last increased.

Rep. Julie Fahey (D-West Eugene & Junction City) and Rep. Pam Marsh (D-Ashland) were the co-chief sponsors of the bill. Rep. Brian Clem (D-Salem) was a sponsor.

"Despite being called mobile homes, it is not actually easy or affordable to move these homes," Rep. Fahey said. "If it's even possible to move a home, it can cost thousands of dollars. This bill provides more financial stability for the residents of these communities."

The bill also requires park owners to notify the Manufactured Communities Resource Center upon the sale of a park, and it makes small changes to co-op membership requirements to allow manufactured park non-profit co-op to better take advantage of a federal Rural Development program.

There are more than 1,000 manufactured home parks with 62,000 sited homes, serving as a vital affordable housing option for many working individuals and families.

"In my community, I have seen how financially disastrous these events can be in the lives of hardworking people," Rep. Marsh said. "At a time when affordable housing is at a premium in communities throughout Oregon, this bill provides needed protections."

The bill, which passed the House 54 to 6, moves to the Oregon Senate for consideration.