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Mayor Wheeler and Commissioners,

My name is Dr. Luis Manriquez and I'm a primary care doctor here in Portland. I'm here today with Metropolitan Alliance for Common Good (MACG). Before I begin I'd like the members of MACG to please stand.

I'm here on behalf of my patients because housing is a health issue. We tend to think about healthcare and disease when we think about what affects health but it is the social situations, like insecure housing, that have the biggest impact. These issues are called the social determinants of health. The social determinants are behind who gets sick and who doesn't. They are the causes of the causes.

I'm here because whenever a patient loses their home due to rising rents or their family has to double or triple up because housing isn't affordable it makes it harder to treat their medical issues: the diabetes, high blood pressure and asthma. Once people are without housing it can be impossible to get medical problems under control until the housing problem is solved. In my view, as an evidence based physician, this rent ordinance is a form of preventative medicine. I ask you to vote yes to protect the health of our city.