



*Olympia Office*

## 2023 Rent Control Update

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2023

Congratulations Housing Providers!!

Thank you to everyone who came to Olympia with our housing providers on Tuesday, January 24 to fight the **two rent control bills, House Bills 1388 and 1389**. Your presence enabled us to have an amazing hearing and connect with lawmakers **Opposing Rent Control**. We had an amazing hearing, and it is **YOUR time** and participation that is making the critical difference for us in this year's battle against rent control!

### AMAZING TURNOUT MADE THE DIFFERENCE

We had well **over 125 people join us** on Tuesday and we filled the hearing room and needed two additional overflow rooms for our housing providers! The tenant advocates were visibly surprised and not pleased! It was also great to see and **hear the number of other industry association representatives**, who came to **speak against rent control**, such as Commercial Real Estate Development (NAIOP), Community Bankers of WA, the WA Realtors, WA Business Properties Association, Washington Self-Storage Association and Assoc of WA Businesses. That of course was in addition to all of our Rental Housing Coalition members including RHAWA, WLA, MHCW, WMFHA, and NARPM, the Yakima Landlord Association brought members from Eastern WA!

The only problem with having soo many wonderful housing providers join us in Olympia was that there wasn't enough time for everyone's voice to be heard in the hearing, but that is okay because the Chair and Committee could not ignore the number of us in attendance and in Opposition. Great job coming to Olympia and changing the narrative.

Included in our group photo are our Lawmakers from the House Housing Committee who also oppose rent control including: newly elected **Rep. Spencer Hutchins** (District 26, Gig Harbor and peninsula); **Rep. Andrew Barkis** (District 2, Pierce County and Yelm), **Rep April Connors** (District 8, Tri-Cities area), and Ranking member **Mark Klicker** (District 16, Southeast WA) was the icing on Tuesday's victory cake! I have attached the photos, and RHAWA should be posting the photo on its website.



Join Us Friday Morning for the

## Senate **RENT CONTROL Bill** (SB 5435)

And our next battle is this **Friday, January 27** when the Senate rolls out its rent control bill, [SB 5435](#)! Please **come to Olympia** and **join us for this fight**.

Also, if you haven't already **signed up in opposition** by **stating CON**, **please do so** now!

According to the latest count (at the time of this email), there are already over 650 people who have signed up in SUPPORT of this Senate Rent Control bill and only 300+ in opposition.

We need your business partners, employees, vendors, family, and friends to [oppose this bill](#) if we are going to **show lawmakers how important** this is to us!

Thanks again for your continued opposition to **RENT CONTROL**.

See You at the [Senate Housing Committee Hearing](#) on **Friday, January 27** at **10:30 am** in the **JA Cherberg Building Room 4**.

We will have a **hearing prep** at **9:00 am** in the **John A Cherberg building, Room ABC**. Join Us!

- **Testify in-person**, click [here](#)
- **Testify virtually**, click [here](#)
- To Submit **written testimony**, click [here](#)
- To Provide opposition to be noted for the legislative record, click [here](#)

Please note that you must sign in **1 hour before the hearing** to **testify** or **provide position** to be placed on legislative record.

After the hearing, you have **24 hours** to **submit written testimony**.

NARRATIVE PROVIDED BY CHRIS DOBLER

---

**Chester Baldwin**  
Lobbyist/Attorney  
[chet@lobbywa.com](mailto:chet@lobbywa.com)  
(360) 688-4588

---

**Chester Baldwin**  
Lobbyist/Attorney  
[chet@lobbywa.com](mailto:chet@lobbywa.com)  
(360) 688-4588

---