

All Parks Alliance for Change

Rent Stabilization

Sample Letter to Representative or Senator

Date _____

The Honorable _____
Minnesota House of Representatives or Minnesota Senate
Office Address of Representative or Senator

Dear Representative/Senator _____,

(In your first paragraph, include personal information)

My name is (your first and last name). I am a resident of (your park's name) manufactured home park in the district you represent. I have lived here for (the number of) years.

(In your second paragraph, describe the issue that concerns you, and include a personal story)

Tell your representative what the issue is, why it is important to you, and how it affects you and/ or your community.

For example: I own my home but only rent the land it sits on. This provides housing I can afford, but also makes me a “captive” tenant. Unlike an apartment renter, I cannot simply move out if the park dramatically increases the rent. There are significant costs involved in moving a manufactured home, a shortage of available park lots in my area, and policies in many parks that prevent older homes from moving in. Residents in many parks are seeing very large rent, especially after national chains and private equity firms started buying up parks in Minnesota. If my park suddenly jacks up the rent, I face the risk of both getting evicted and losing my home.

(In your third paragraph, identify how you want to see the issue solved)

Tell your representative what the solution is to your issue, how it solves the problem, and why you support it.

For example: It is important to strike a balance between allowing park owners a fair profit while preventing rents from becoming unaffordable and causing residents like myself to lose our homes. One solution is to limit rent increases to the Consumer Price Index, unless they can be justified by either an increase in the cost of operating, maintaining or improving the park, or similar rents being charged by other parks in the area. Some states require park owners to justify rent increases that exceed the CPI, if there is a written request from at least 51% of resident households.

(State what you are asking the legislator to support or oppose)

Tell your representative you want them to support this proposal and ask for a response.

Sincerely,

(Signature)

Your Name
Your Street Address
Your City, State, Zip Code
Your E-mail
Your Phone Number