

Hello City Council and Staff,

My name is Vince Katching and I am an ACORN member.

I am delegating today in support of the city moving forward with Hamilton's own anti-renoviction bylaw. I am personally appreciative of seeing city staff make this bylaw happen after years of campaigning for anti-renoviction protections.

Renoviction not only drives up average rents, it drives out any feeling tenants have that their housing is safe. Once the first couple of tenants in my building, moved out for renovations but never came back, we realized something was wrong. We organized to fight back, and are fighting them in court, but there's almost none of us original tenants left in the building.

Family Properties and other corporate landlords have every advantage you can think of when they want to renovict tenants. They just have to not do repairs for long enough that renovations would be extensive, and then it's up to tenants to chase them to have their rights respected if they want to return to their units. We need to hold landlords accountable for giving tenants somewhere safe to live even if it means they don't make top profits!

The impact of this bylaw will have ripple effects far beyond anything happening in just our city.

Thank you for reading my delegation.