

protections and billions of dollars in aid to landlords.” This is just the tip of the iceberg of landlords abusing the law.

Councilmember Sawant’s office has worked closely with [renters across the city who have suffered in substandard housing](#) rife with housing code violations that their landlords refused to fix. These landlords knowingly and willingly broke housing code laws, allowing their tenants to languish without hot water and heat, with pest infestations, and/or broken appliances, to name only a few examples. We know that renters everywhere are suffering under a system which gives landlords immeasurably more power and more protection under the law, and that landlords are rarely held to account when violating the few renters’ rights protections that do exist in Seattle and elsewhere.