

I support direct rent assistance payments to landlords for the following reasons.

Direct payments to landlords will keep the supply chain functioning, including mortgages, insurance, maintenance, etc. This isn't just about making sure that landlords get their money. A moratorium on mortgage payments provides some relief, but it doesn't provide income. Rental properties require maintenance. If landlords don't have the money to pay for needed maintenance due to the crisis. Direct payments to landlords for the tenants who need help will be a vital way to infuse funds in to the local economies. Other pressing issues for some landlords are current pending notices for bad behavior by tenants, or termination notices issued prior to this time. Can these evictions still be processed and executed, or do landlords have to sit tight while the tenant continues to damage the property, disturb the quiet enjoyment of the neighbors, and even commit criminal acts while being protected from eviction? Can waiver rules be temporarily suspended due to this crisis allowing landlords to accept rent, but still keep their notice valid? I urge you to consider the unintended consequences of your decisions now and in the coming days and find a middle ground that takes these concerns into account.

Sincerely, Leslie Larson