

To the Oregon Joint Committee in Response to Coronavirus

I am concerned that efforts to prohibit eviction for failure to pay rent related in some way to the corona virus is going to backfire, damaging the economy by setting off a chain reaction that will put property managers, landscapers, and many others out of work, stop the payment of mortgages, utilities, taxes etc., and most importantly overlook the obvious. (By the way, with the courts shut down there won't be any evictions anyway.)

**So, perhaps funding Housing Authorities so tenants can get subsidized rents immediately would be a better answer. State money and federal money is needed to supplement the agencies. When someone loses their job they qualify for unemployment, food stamps and rent subsidy. Let's make sure these programs are adequately funded to catch as many people as possible. As a landlord we will work with our tenants and support them in the process of getting the assistance they deserve from these programs, but they need to be expedited by legislative action.**

**I am hoping that you can pass a legislative proposal to establish a temporary state based section 8 program which when adopted would give the Housing Authorities the needed funding and authorization to accept any reasonable proof for applicants to qualify rather than the strict section 8 guidelines.**

Please feel free to call me at 503-559-4650 and leave a message. I will call you right back. Once I have your number in the phone I will be able to pick up when you call.

Thank you,

Steve Westfall  
521 Tower Dr NW  
Salem, OR 97304