

Dear Committee-

Thank you for reaching out to the community for information about the economic impact of the virus. I have just one Air BnB / VRBO rental cottage which I rely upon for my income. With OSF and other tourism venues shutting down in OR and Jackson county specifically, reservations have completely collapsed. I am considered a 'senior' in the outbreak, at 60 yrs old, and am self-isolating as asked. But I am not considered a senior in terms of any government programs such as Medicare or Social Security. As such, I am left without a safety net.

The focus of planned government support is on large businesses, perhaps on some on small business with staff, bars, bartenders and service workers. Hilton and Marriott are already in line for subsidies. What about "tiny" businesses such as mine, where I work alone to support myself in a business completely dependent upon tourism? Air BnB has notified guests with reservations that they can cancel anytime without penalty. While that is noble, it leave us hosts to shoulder the entire burden.

My only option may be to try to rent long-term. However, now there are rumors of rent freezes. Please, please consider the implications before you support that. Homeowners dependent first upon Air BnB income, then long-term rental income if we are lucky enough to find renters, will not be able to make mortgage payments. The banks will eventually own our homes and businesses.

Please ask Gov. Brown to provide direct support for the many, many Oregon households dependent upon Air BnB income; and not to freeze rents for those of us who have only one or two units to rent. Air BnB income is not "frosting" for every host. For some of us, it is our livelihood.

Thank you,  
Bernadette