

March 22, 2020

Committee Members,

It is my request that when considering legislation regarding dealing with rental issues during this trying period that it not be forgotten that not all landlords are big businesses. There are a large number of landlords that are individuals/couples that invested in real estate with a goal that it could help them pay for educational expenses for their children and/or give them additional income when they retired.

The individuals or couples that own rental properties are being faced with the same issues regarding employment or having business affected by the COVID-19 situation as tenants. They need to be given the same consideration regarding the impact of COVID-19 that tenants will be given.

I was a Realtor for 30 years and sold properties to laborers in the construction industry, small business owners, individuals that worked in the food service, etc. Many of these rental owners are still working and are still paying mortgages which require monthly payments; in some cases water costs for the rental is covered by the rental owner and normal maintenance is a continual expense. Some of these rental owners are retired and the income from their rental or rentals is the only income they have for their retirement other than social security.

The only things I have heard about in the news are ideas to help tenants. In helping the tenants, please don't harm the landlords.

Respectfully,

Gene Snippen

Bend, Oregon