

**Members of the legislative committee on Covid-19 and rental housing:**

I understand that today, Gov. Brown has halted evictions for 90 days.

I know that consideration has been given to rental assistance to those who may be unemployed, home-bound, or sickened by the virus or the steps taken to contain the virus.

To protect the tenant and the landlord equally, such rental assistance payments should come directly to the landlord. Otherwise, the payments may well not be used for the rent and in that case, you are stressing the landlord. Many of us depend upon the monthly cash flow of rental payments just to upkeep our properties, pay for insurance, property taxes, and repairs. We are small businessmen with a single family home rented, not owners of apartment complexes.

President Trump and others have stressed the need to protect small businesses in the USA. Many of us are exactly those small business owners who will be hurt if we don't collect monthly rents, can't evict a delinquent tenant, but are held to the usual standard of all the duties of a conscientious landlord.

Thank you for considering protecting the landlord while aiding the tenant by sending the payments directly to us.

Sincerely,

Rich R.

Bend, OR