

Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301

March 23, 2020

RE: URGENT NEED FOR RENTAL ASSISTANCE TO ALL HOUSING PROVIDERS ON BEHALF OF TENANTS  
IMPACTED BY THE EVICTION MORATORIUM

Dear Governor Brown and Members of the Joint Special Committee on Coronavirus Response;

My name is Laura Neilson and I have been providing a rental house to Oregon residents for 4 years. I currently have one dwelling unit located in Gresham. We are currently days from closing on two more units.

I recognize the extraordinary situation that we are now in requires sacrifice on everybody's part. I very much want to help my fellow Oregonians that have lost their jobs because of the COVID-19 pandemic. I understand that stay home / stay safe is the wisest policy to control the spread of the virus, and that we must keep people housed during this crisis.

You have to understand the strain this policy would put on us as a landlord and young family. With our one single rental we must pay house payment, HOA dues, garbage bill, property taxes and insurance. If our current tenant does not pay us under your policy we would then be responsible. Therefore, you are potentially causing harm to my family to make 2 house payments in this time (rental and our current residence). My husband's job status like everyone else is not stable at this moment. We have three young children and work hard and made good financial decisions to keep our first home as a rental. This policy is reckless to us landlords that provide homes and have the wellbeing of everyone (our wonderful tenants and ourselves) in mind.

I ask that you reconsider this policy keeping in mind that most landlords do not always have the home paid free and clear and/or thousands in the bank to cover months of expenses. This could cause an awful snowball effect if tenants take advantage of your policy.

Thank you for your service to our State and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Douglas and Laura ~ The Neilson family