Hello,

I am writing in to voice my support for the newly formed Joint Special Committee on Coronavirus freezing the rent of all workers in the Portland area. Many of us have lost our jobs and have faced increased financial insecurity these past few days, and will absolutely not be able to make rent. While a moratorium on evictions is a good start, it isn't nearly enough.

Under the recently announced eviction moratorium, the money owed from rent that couldn't be payed due to Coronavirus related loss of income will become debt that can be paid off over the 6 months after the state of emergency is lifted. Many of us are already living paycheck to paycheck, on the brink of being without housing every month. Adding debt on top of our already high rent fees will cause those of us who can barely afford rent to loose our housing. Continuing to let landlords capitalize on our labor in a state of emergency is cruel and heartless. Housing is a human right, and every step that can be taken to ensure every one of us has a safe place to lay our heads down at night should be taken.

Thank you, Angelica Brown