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The measures taken by the State so far have been very sensible and necessary if the coronavirus infection rate is to be decreased. My main concern is that the restrictions imposed must stay in place beyond the date on which the virus is recognized as having 'run its course'. The question is, how will that be determined; by waiting for a period of 2, 3 or 4 weeks without new cases being reported? To get this period wrong would surely prove disastrous.

I would further ask for recognition of the severe financial hardship that will be caused by loss of income (from State-imposed restrictions on business) and the need to continue with rent or mortgage payments. Most of my friends and neighbors in the intergenerationally-impooverished Illinois Valley have no savings and are only a paycheck or two away - maybe two months - from losing their home and joining the homeless on the streets. This pandemic will likely last at least 3 months, and then there is the period of waiting for cessation of cases.

Help seems to be coming (<https://finance.yahoo.com/news/coronavirus-mortgage-rent-tax-relief-192143723.html>) but for those unfortunate people who have actually lost their job because of the restriction, the situation will continue until they are in employment once more. Will the rent/mortgage relief be continued until these people are once more fully employed?

If we are to avoid a flood of homeless people in this area, financial relief for rent and mortgage payments must be forthcoming and continued until the danger of homelessness is past. It is, of course, through no fault of theirs that people will lose their jobs and their inability to make these payments.

Yours truly,  
A fo ben, bid bont. - Welsh proverb ('to be a leader, be a bridge')

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