



Testimony on LC 90  
June 22, 2020  
Joint Interim Committee on The First Special Session of 2020  
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Good afternoon CO-Chair Courtney, Co-Chair Kotek, and members of the committee. My name is Deborah Riddick. I am the Director of Government Relations for the Oregon Nurses Association (ONA). We represent 15,000 registered nurses throughout the state the Nurse Practitioners of Oregon. ONA and NPO support the provisions outlined in LC 90 as appropriate and reasonable changes that will improve tenant protections during this public health crisis and time of economic instability.

We appreciate the legislature's recognition that housing stability is an essential public need, particularly during our current pandemic. Without these temporary protections, many residents who have been laid off or terminated would be without shelter. During a pandemic where new cases are once again on the rise, this threatens not only their safety but the safety of every Oregonian. Particularly vulnerable residents, including those with compromised immune systems, People of Color, and our seniors, need the assurance that they can remain safe indoors to reduce exposure.

We believe that the physical and psychological impact of housing stability during this pandemic has exponential benefits. The stress of houselessness, or merely the threat, can contribute to poor outcomes. In addition, the displacement related to eviction negatively impacts treatment and medication adherence, as well as practical matters like meal preparation and basic hygiene that we take for granted.

Our members support LC 90's protections against evictions that values public safety at a time when Oregonians, all across the state need it most.