

From: [Ashley Coleman](#)
To: [JISS Exhibits](#)
Subject: Eviction moratorium and rent forgiveness/cancellation
Date: Monday, June 22, 2020 10:55:59 PM

Hello,

My name is Ashley Coleman and I live in Portland, OR. I am reaching out to you before the emergency session on June 24th to ask that you extend the moratorium on evictions and work on a plan to address the accumulated back rent that will put many Oregonians in danger of becoming homeless. I also ask that you consider working on a plan to reduce, but preferably cancel, rent until the COVID crisis is over.

Things are not back to normal, and those who are beginning to go back to work are working reduced hours in unsafe conditions. With no guarantee of more federal stimulus money, those who have been struggling to pay their rent will continue to struggle. If the moratorium is lifted now, thousands and thousands of working class Oregonians will be at risk of losing their homes.

I am currently unemployed and while my employer is working on getting things up and running again, there is no guarantee that the business will survive this, and even if it does, my hours will certainly not be what they once were. My partner is a dog walker and pet sitter and has had exactly one client since March. If the moratorium were to be lifted now, our lives would be upended more than they already have been. That uncertainty is a terrifying reality for many Oregonians.

Please also develop a strategy to forgive the back rent that many of us will struggle to pay and put a pause on future payments. The money simply isn't there for many of us. Businesses are shutting down and cutting back left and right, and to expect unemployed or underemployed people to pay their rent in full is unrealistic and unfair.

Thank you for your time.

Ashley Coleman