



Coos-Curry/North Bend City
Housing Authority

Linn Benton Housing Authority

Home Forward (Multnomah County)

Homes for Good (Lane County)

Housing Authority of Clackamas County

Housing Authority of Douglas County

Housing Authority of Jackson County

Housing Authority of Lincoln County

Housing Authority of Malheur County

Housing Authority of the County of Umatilla

Housing Authority of Washington County

Housing Authority of Yamhill County

Housing Works (Central Oregon)

Josephine Housing & Community
Development Council

Klamath County Housing Authority

Linn Benton Housing Authority

Marion County Housing Authority

Mid-Columbia Housing Authority

Northeast Oregon Housing Authority

Northwest Oregon Housing Authority

Salem Housing Authority

Vancouver Housing Authority

West Valley Housing Authority

June 23, 2020

Dear Co-Chair Courtney, Co-Chair Kotek, Co-Vice-Chair Girod, Co-Vice-Chair Drazan, and members of the Joint Special Session Committee:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Housing Authorities of Oregon to express our support for LC 45 (Sections 1-6) and request that you take further action to prevent evictions across the State. We are asking that you extend the moratorium on evictions to support housing stability for Oregonians who rent their homes.

As you know, households across Oregon are making impossible choices with limited resources to pay their rent and meet basic needs during this public health crisis. Some households are paying rent with a credit card. The New York Times reported in late May that: "Without a new round of government intervention...we will have an avalanche of evictions across the country." We urge you to extend the eviction moratorium and take legislative action to provide tenants with at least 6 months to repay unpaid rent. Housing stability must be a top priority for the Legislature.

The 22 Housing Authorities serving Oregon's 36 counties are the largest provider of affordable housing in our state. On any given night, more than 35,000 households have a place to sleep because of the Housing Choice Voucher program administered by Housing Authorities. Through our work, every year more than a quarter of a billion dollars in federal rent assistance is infused into Oregon's private rental market. We know first hand that people with low incomes will experience a crisis of evictions if the current moratorium is allowed to expire on June 30.

We express our strong support for extending the eviction moratorium through LC 45 and enacting a six-month repayment period that is critical to supporting tenants to pay back rent.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joel Madsen", written in a cursive style.

Joel Madsen
President, Housing Authorities of Oregon



HAO advocates for policies and resources that create safe,
stable housing options for all Oregonians **haoregon.org**

