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Subject: Evictions
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The current proposed changes to the moratorium on evictions in LC 45 is short sighted and puts the collective burden of this crisis on housing providers. The proposed legislation:

- Does not address the **\$150M** shortfall in rental assistance funding for struggling Oregonians.
- Lacks a minimum objective demonstration that nonpayment of rent is tied to COVID-19 virus, creating a loophole for those looking to exploit a crisis in their favor.
- Declares that the tenant has possession of the unit despite nonpayment of rent, which is rewriting contract law.
- At a minimum, creates a yearlong state seizure of property with no reassurance of compensation.
- Aggressively penalizes housing providers for administrative errors but gives no guarantee of relief to housing providers who incur property damages during the moratorium.
- Provides immunity to shelter operators and public entities but not to rental housing providers

Oregonians need long term solutions, not political punting. Oregon's leaders need a comprehensive response that:

- Encourages the Governor to avoid the political horse trading of the special

session.

- Provides rental assistance to struggling Oregonians, who are already facing a **\$150M** shortfall in unpaid rent.
- Improves the distribution of rental assistance with a uniform application process so that struggling Oregonians can receive assistance NOW.
- Opens courts to process housing providers claims for damages and losses to minimize debt and preserve naturally affordable rental housing.
- Establishes liability protection for housing providers, with exception for gross negligence, to head off costly frivolous lawsuits further restricting housing supply and jamming our courts.

Sue Scott

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