

Homeowner stuck in a trailer unable to move home

I wanted to share a personal story from a slightly different perspective related to the upcoming deadline of Sept. 30 when the Oregon Eviction Moratorium is set to end. I'm an Oregon homeowner living with my family of 4 in a trailer in my father's backyard because the law won't let me move back into my own house... I'd like to make a plea to Oregon lawmakers, if you are going to further extend the moratorium HB 4213, can you please make a provision for homeowners like me to be able to serve notices for valid landlord causes like moving into my house?

I grew up in Bend, OR and was relocated to Florida in 2016 by my job when the Springfield, OR office closed down. I kept my home in Eugene, but rented it out, making it clear to the tenant my eventual goal to move back into my house. My work gave me the option of working from home recently, so my wife and I jumped at the opportunity to move back to Oregon. After accepting an offer to sell our house in Florida, we came to some startling realizations.

1. We no longer had the right to terminate our agreement with a 30 day notice as our original rental agreement states. That law had changed to 60 days and then to 90 days. 90 days was pretty bad but it was only June then, we'd be in our home by September, right? Wrong.

2. With the HB 4213 moratorium in place, we couldn't even serve a 90 day notice giving our intention to move back into our house. If we do, we risk being sued for 3 months rent by our tenant.

3. We tried to offer monetary incentives for our tenant to move out, but he will not find a new place to live. Though he verbally told us he would be out by the time we got to Oregon which was just after our house sold at the end of August.

So we bought a travel trailer and we are in limbo in my dad's backyard with no house to live in and no idea when we will be able to move back into our house. I really hope Oregon legislators will make a way for me to start the process, even if they generally extend the moratorium.

Thanks for your time!