



June 24, 2020

Dear Co-Chairs Courtney and Kotek, Vice Chairs Girod and Drazan, and Members of the Committee,

The Fair Shot For All Coalition is a partnership of racial and gender justice organizations and labor unions who came together with a clear recognition that our economy is broken and the status quo simply doesn't work for many of us-- Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC), LGBTQ communities, women, immigrants and working families.

The Fair Shot for All coalition is deeply concerned about the impact of COVID-19 on our communities, who are disproportionately sick and dying during this pandemic. We are also disproportionately impacted by the economic fallout from this pandemic, and will feel the health and economic impacts of this crisis longer. We believe that housing stability must be a top priority for the Legislature now.

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. We know that unless the Legislature takes action, Oregon will see what other states are seeing – an avalanche of evictions for non-payment of rent, and homelessness.

In Oregon, renters are disproportionately Black, Indigenous, and people of color. Within the City of Portland alone, 3 in 4 Black households rent their homes, and 6 in 10 Latinx households. The Legislature must enact a strong eviction moratorium, and include a repayment period to give people who rent their homes time to access rental assistance or receive their long-awaited unemployment insurance benefits, in order to repay any back rent. People with low incomes or people who have lost work due to COVID will not simply be able to repay all the back rent that is owed once the moratorium is lifted.

We urge you to extend the eviction moratorium by at least 90-days and to provide struggling families with at least a six-months grace period to repay unpaid rent. Please vote YES on 4213 with those amendments.

Fair Shot Steering Committee Members: Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon, Basic Rights Oregon, Causa Oregon, Family Forward Oregon, Oregon AFL-CIO, Oregon AFSCME, Oregon Education Association, Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste (PCUN), Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon, Service Employees International Union (SEIU), United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) 555, Unite Oregon, and the Urban League of Portland. For a full list of coalition members and to learn more visit:

www.fairshotoregon.org