

To whom it may concern,

I am writing today to ask that you extend the moratorium of evictions and extend that moratorium to raising rent as well - in multnomah county where I live and in all counties throughout the state.

I was able to keep my job throughout this pandemic but my partner, and second source of income, was furloughed. Oregon unemployment is behind on giving my partner over \$3,000 worth of unemployment claims. Their phone lines are consistently unreachable (busy signal all day long), there are no e-mail addresses and they discourage in-person visits (if our local office is even open at all!). We have no idea why he is not receiving this money that we so desperately need.

This is not the time to end the moratorium on evictions. We are now relying solely on my income to pay our rent, and there are thousands of others in Oregon who were not lucky enough to work an "essential" job that kept them in work, and who were permanently laid off instead of furloughed. My partner and I might be in a dire situation financially, but we are not the worst off. If we would benefit from the safety net of a freeze on evictions then there are many others to NEED this freeze on evictions to survive.

Evicting low income families, the ones who are struggling the most because of the pandemic, creates a cycle of poverty and homelessness. In order to not create chaos and push families into homeless, we desperately need an eviction freeze to protect families on the brink of being evicted from their homes because of this pandemic. Cancelling rent is the biggest thing we could do to help families struggling to get back on their feet. Please consider this.

The impact of being unemployed doesn't just end when we enter varying phases of opening up our state - the impact is long lasting and our state government needs to understand the powerful role it can have in preventing chaos in thousands of Oregonians lives. We ALL benefit when EVERYONE is taken care of.

Please, extend the moratorium on evictions and rent raises during this time.

Warmly,

Emma Spanjer

503.953.6954

emmaspanjer@gmail.com