

LC-18

Dear members of the Oregon Senate,

I am writing to you this evening to ask you to pass LC-18: the proposal to extend both the eviction and foreclosure moratoriums state wide.

The pandemic has affected so many people in our state, and my family is just one out of the many. My husband is a transit operator for Trimet and I am the director of worship at our church. We have a young adult daughter with Autism living at home. In March I was furloughed when our Church closed to worship. In April my husband's hours were cut because fewer passengers were allowed on the bus. Neither of us were able to get unemployment, because my husband was working full time (to make a living wage with trimet, you need to work over 50 hours a week and he cut to 40), and I could never get through to unemployment.

We were unable to pay full rent for several months. Just this week, my husband got his hours back and we see January as a month where we can pay full rent, but that will still keep us struggling to pay other bills because I'm not working. We will not be able to pay anything back for a while yet.

There are households worse off than us. And I can't even imagine the stress they are under, since our stress seems almost unbearable at times.

No one is stepping up to help us. It's Christmas and families are going without buying gifts for their children because they don't know if all their remaining money, if there is any, needs to go to January rent and paying back the unpaid rent from months before. This is a dark Christmas.

Please bring us hope. Please bring the state hope.

Thank you, Jill MacCartney, Portland , Oregon