



Co-Chairs President Courtney & Speaker Tina Kotek, Co-Vice Chairs Sen. Girod and Rep. Drazen, members of the Committee,

For the record, my name is Kevin Cronin and I live at 3655 West 13th Ave #229 in Eugene, OR. I work at the Lane County housing authority, Homes for Good, and I serve as president-elect of our Union, AFSCME Local 3267.

Our membership is advocating for a “Yes” on LC 18.

In my day job, I work on the intake team for public housing and section 8. Every day, I spend 2-3 hours a day returning phone calls of folks who are interested in the programs that we offer. Some of these calls are families that are rent insecure, not currently served by our programs, where the only thing standing between them and homelessness is the current eviction moratorium. Once someone falls behind on rent, it is incredibly difficult for them to catch up. These are tough conversations, and it’s necessary for the legislature to act.

The safest place for people to be in a pandemic is safe at home. Families and individuals with very limited options for places to go will be at higher risk of COVID 19 in addition to all of the other risks that come from not having a secure place to live. Our communities have long been struggling to meet the needs of our most vulnerable neighbors. Without the extension of the moratorium and provided rental assistance many people will end up on the streets.

Oregon’s renting families have hung on this long. We cannot take away their lifeline now. We promised Oregon renters that they wouldn’t lose their homes during the pandemic. We need to keep that promise.

Please pass these protections in LC 18.

Sincerely,

Kevin Cronin  
President - Elect  
AFSCME Local 3267