

Lawrence L. Calkins
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December 17, 2020

Dear Members of the Oregon Legislature:

We are writing this letter to oppose parts of the bill LC-18 up before the Oregon Legislature today and Saturday. Although we realize that it is important to not have many people thrown out of their homes due to an inability to pay during the pandemic, there are certain individuals who have taken advantage of the situation since the beginning:

We have one tenant that has not lost her job and also has not paid one cent in rent since the moratorium began. She is also way behind on her water bill which is our responsibility when she moves. Should she get an entire year of free rent?

Another tenant is a professional home painter. We have found him people who would pay to have their home interior painted but he says this is charity. He now owes four months rent and a water bill of around \$1600—again our responsibility when he moves. Maybe we could use some of that charity.

Other tenants are behind in rent also.

We have tenants with families who work in kitchens, home cleaning, etc. They always pay their rent and to reward them we have given them money off each month.

Our major concerns are the fact that a tenant can just say they have been hurt by the pandemic. They do not need to prove this. Our other concern is that the landlords will receive only 80% of the money due. Why should landlords have to be the ones who give. We still have to pay taxes, insurance, repairs and maintenance. Nobody is stepping up to cover these losses.

When we sold our small farm and moved to Oregon about fourteen years ago, we purchased some rentals as a way to help us take care of ourselves in retirement and if we end up in assisted living. We are in our 80s now and these funds are disappearing. Please help us and other small landlords.

Sincerely,

Lawrence L. Calkins
Sandra L. Calkins