

Dear President Courtney, Speaker Kotek, Co-Vice Chairs Senators Girod and Drazen, and member of the committee,

During the biggest public health crisis of our lifetimes, we must protect people who need help the most, which is the poor and working class, as well as Black, Indigenous, and people of color. Oregon has always been a leader in maverick help and as the U.S. Congress looks at a paltry \$600 stimulus that wouldn't help pay one more month's rent, it is time for the Oregon legislature to step up and care for your constituents. An extended eviction moratorium will mean that renters have a place to stay at home and stay safe, to come home to after working on the front lines of the pandemic, and to provide at-home education for their children. I know renters who are on the verge of becoming homeless, and I know landlords who are also suffering by not getting the rent on which they rely to feed their own families, so there should also be a landlord compensation fund that helps smaller landlords with back rent so they won't have to evict. **The Oregon State Legislature must come together on a common sense solution that protects both tenants and landlords.**

The eviction moratorium should be extended through June of 2021 to help families. The vaccine will not reach most families until at least June, and the safest place for people to be in this pandemic is safe at home. Families and individuals will be at higher risk of COVID if they lose their homes and our communities will have increased spread of this terrible disease, which, as you know, is only rising and breaking daily records in Oregon and across the county.

Please, as a tax-paying citizen who is lucky enough to be able to pay for my family's home right now, I implore you and your fellow senators to swiftly pass a bill far and above what you think people need in order to survive.

Thank you,

Nancy Slavin
Clackamas Co. Oregon

"justice will take us millions of intricate moves." – William Stafford