

Dear Members of the Committee,

I'm writing in support of LC18 eviction moratorium extension and rental assistance. My name is Tim Orr and I work at the Community Alliance of tenants. We work with low-income tenants from across the state who are facing an unprecedented level of crisis. Our cities and towns are already at overwhelming levels of homelessness and if the moratorium is not extended it will mean many more of our community members and families will be out on the streets without a house--leading to a high cost on the economy and on human life. Incidences of COVID-19 have risen in states that lifted moratoriums at 2.1 times the rate of states that maintained them. Deaths increased by 5.4 times.

The safest place for people to be in a 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.

Families need stability to provide for their children's education. More than one in five families with children who rent their homes say they may not be able to pay next month's rent. Oregon already has one of the highest rates of student homelessness in the country. We cannot force families whose children have been learning remotely to lose stability, internet connection and the ability to keep their education going in the pandemic.

This issue crosses party and geographic lines. Republicans and Democrats alike, rural and urban alike, will face eviction through no fault of their own because of COVID lost income. And rural Oregon has the highest rates of student homelessness in the state.

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.

Sincerely,  
Tim Orr  
Community Alliance of Tenants



**Tim Orr, Education and Support Hotline Manager**

Community Alliance of Tenants  
Alianza Comunitaria de Inquilinxs

503-460-9702 ext 120 | [tim@oregoncat.org](mailto:tim@oregoncat.org)

Renters Rights Hotline - 503.288.0130 | [www.oregoncat.org](http://www.oregoncat.org)

*Hablo español*

Gender pronouns: He | Him | Él

[Why include this?](#)

CAT's Portland, Oregon office is located in Multnomah County. We honor the Indigenous people whose traditional and ancestral homelands we stand on: the Multnomah, Kathlamet,

Clackamas, Tumwater, Watlala bands of the Chinook, the Tualatin Kalapuya and many other Indigenous nations of the Willamette and Columbia River regions.

CAT's Southern Oregon office is located in Medford, Oregon in Jackson County.

It is important to acknowledge the ancestors of this land and to recognize that we are here because of genocide forced upon them.