

Dear Co-Chair Beyer, Co-Chair Fahey, Co-Vice Chair Knopp, and Co-Vice Chair Wallan and members of the Joint Interim Committee on the Second Special Session of 2021

I am the Co-chair of the No Evictions Committee at St. Andrew Catholic Church in North East Portland. Our committee is dedicated to helping parishioners, families from the St. Andrew Nativity School, and neighbors in the area near our church keep their housing during the pandemic.

Our church has raised money to assist vulnerable families pay their rent and utilities but our funds are not enough. We have therefore trained parishioner volunteers to help people complete the cumbersome application for Oregon Emergency Rental Assistance (OERAP). To our knowledge, not one of the families we have helped have received OERAP funds. I therefore strongly favor the rental assistance policy in LC9. I believe no one should be evicted for nonpayment while their OERAP application is being processed. I urge passage of the following:

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- Provide new funding for continuing access to rent assistance for tenants with low-income through the winter
- months until new federal resources are available, and for the landlord guarantee fund.
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- Modify SB 278's safe harbor period to cover the entire application period, and extend the sunset on protections.
- Tenants who have applied for assistance should be protected until their application has been considered, and either granted or denied, no matter when they apply.
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- Extend the sunset on the current 10-day (as opposed to 72 hour) notice period for nonpayment evictions,
- coupled with updated notice to tenants about eviction process and where to find rent assistance. This is a common-sense provision that works to facilitate access to available resources designed to prevent displacement.
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- Expand and extend the current 60-day landlord guarantee fund to cover any period of time (not just 60 days)
- if a landlord delays eviction and a tenant is ultimately denied assistance or receives less than is owed when the case is closed. This removes risk for the landlord in ensuring tenant stability and access to assistance.
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Respectfully,

Raymond Peter Anderson

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