

Date: 3/4

RE: Support for SB 282

Central City Concern (CCC) is a non-profit direct service organization that provides integrated primary and behavioral health care, supportive and affordable housing, and employment services to people impacted by homelessness in the Tri-County area. Central City Concern operates about 2,100 units of affordable housing, serves 9,000 patients annually through our 12 Federally Qualified Health Centers, makes 1,200 job placements annually and operates social services for the community justice programs in Multnomah and Clackamas counties. Our programs and properties span Senate Districts 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25; and House Districts 33, 36, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48 and 50

We support the passage of SB 282, in order to allow more time for federal and state rent assistance and the landlord compensation fund to be fully deployed. Allowing for a repayment window through February of 2022 also provides time for tenants who are able to enter into a repayment plan to do so and make reasonable monthly payment along with their current rent payments.

Creating this ramp-down from the eviction moratorium also provides the legislature time to consider other supportive investments like increasing the availability of employment assistance for those needing additional support getting back to work. Our private sector employment landscape may well see permanent changes in job availabilities, especially for entry level and service-oriented jobs. Many people may find themselves in need additional skills training or schooling to reenter the job market and find housing wage jobs.

Thank you, Mercedes Elizalde Public Policy Director