

My name is Vania Lucio-Mancilla and I am a North Portland resident.

I want to preface my testimony by stating that housing is a human right! As a tenant and community organizer, I am in full support of bill SB 282 and an advocate for an extension to the eviction moratorium in place. Despite the severely negative effects this pandemic has had on people's health and jobs, recent data shows that 60% of Oregonians are making strong efforts to pay their rent. A growing number of people have had to borrow money or sell their possessions in order to ensure that this is possible and even then, it has been difficult for them to make their payments in a timely manner. Through my role as a community organizer, I have also had to refer community members to assistance because they simply do not have the means to pay their rent or to meet their basic needs. We cannot penalize people with the risk of losing their housing when they are making every effort possible to pay their rent and to meet their basic needs- all of this while surviving a global pandemic that has killed thousands of people in the past year.

Again, I ask that you please support and pass bill 282, extend the eviction moratorium and showcase that you truly support low-income Oregonians during a time in which we are all trying to survive a global pandemic.