

Dayne Barron
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April 16, 2021

Oregon State Legislature
Joint Ways and Means Committee
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

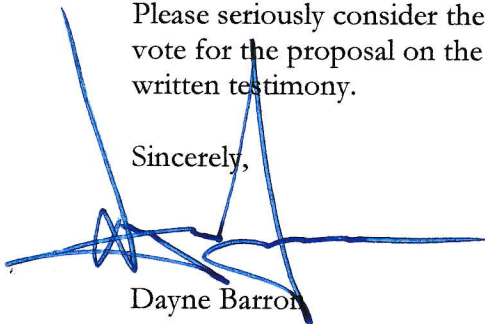
Dear Co-Chairs Johnson, Steiner-Hayward, Rayfield and Members of the Committee:

My name is Dayne Barron from Medford, Oregon. Since 2018, I have mediated over 200 FED and Small Claims cases referred by Jackson County Circuit Court as a volunteer for the Resolve Center for Dispute Resolution and Restorative Justice. I respectfully request that you support an investment in Eviction Avoidance Mediation programs.

You may be interested to know that over 80% of the FED cases mediated by the Resolve Center reach agreements which then eliminate the need for courtroom deliberation. Proposed mediation *prior* to issuance of eviction notices has the promise of eliminating a great deal of the current level of courthouse processing by providing for a conversation that in many cases is not happening. It seems to me that agreements reached before formal eviction would also help provide stability to landlords as well as tenants.

Please seriously consider the benefits of mediation as an early mitigation to eviction. In my mind, a vote for the proposal on the table is a vote for Oregon tenants, landlords, and courts. This is my written testimony.

Sincerely,



Dayne Barron

CC Brian Graunke, Resolve Center for Dispute Resolution and Restorative Justice