

Dear Legislators, at this time we thank you deeply for your work to assist families.

This spring, we have seen an unprecedented wave of students in our schools having to leave because their family lost their housing. We have seen students have to go to work, some for 40 hours, because their families could not pay their bills, much less make rent. As families start to pull themselves out of the economic crisis of the pandemic, there are still many crevices they may fall through without continued protection. A continued moratorium on rent is required to help families get back on their feet, otherwise we fear a wave of mass evictions and stable families out on the street, students leaving school, leading to all kinds of severe consequences.

The Oregon Legislature has taken significant and much appreciated steps during the pandemic and the wildfires to prevent evictions and keep people in their homes. It would be tragic if in these final weeks, people faced an unfair eviction because money didn't get allocated on time. We cannot allow all the good work we've done to keep people in their homes to fall apart now, right as assistance is coming available. Please quickly pass SB 278.