

Submitter: Donna Cohen

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB1069

To: Senate Committee on Housing and Development

From: Donna Cohen, Portland, Oregon

Re: SB 1069 – Oppose as is

Date: 3/8/2023

In regard to this bill, which would let landlords use electronic means to return funds “if allowed under a written rental agreement”, a rental agreement is never a negotiation, therefore this gives permission to landlords to determine the method of returning funds.

However, according to 2021 FDIC National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households

Nov 21, 2022 <https://www.fdic.gov/analysis/household-survey/index.html> :

? An estimated 4.5 percent of U.S. households (approximately 5.9 million) were “unbanked” in 2021, meaning that no one in the household had a checking or savings account at a bank or credit union.

? Differences in unbanked rates between Black and White households and between Hispanic and White households in 2021 were present at every income level. For example, among households with income between \$30,000 and \$50,000, 8.0 percent of Black households and 8.4 percent of Hispanic households were unbanked, compared with 1.7 percent of White households.

Forcing unbanked households to accept an electronic payment will put some households in an untenable situation. Electronic payments should be allowed but not mandatory for a tenant else.