

SB 690 A -A6 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Rules

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Meeting Dates: 6/19

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires courts to reschedule eviction hearings for certain parents of young children who are eligible for health-related social needs (HRSN) housing supports. It directs Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) to prioritize certain parents of young children in rules, policies, and programs.

Detailed Summary:

- Requires a court to reschedule a trial date for eviction based on nonpayment if documentation is provided showing that the tenant is the parent of a child under 12 months of age living in the rental unit, a Medicaid member, and approved by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) or a Coordinated Care Organization (CCO) to receive HRSN housing supports.
 - Directs a court to set a new trial date between 90 and 104 days after the approval date shown in the documentation.
 - Sunsets September 28, 2027.
- Directs the Oregon Judicial Department (OJD), in consultation with OHCS, to include information about delayed eviction hearings for people who are the parent of a child under 12 months of age on a public notice for tenants who are facing potential eviction for nonpayment.
 - Becomes operative 60 days after passage.
 - Sunsets September 28, 2027.
- Directs OHCS, when adopting rules or policies regarding programs to promote housing stabilization, to prioritize families with children under 12 months of age.
 - Directs ODHS to submit a report on the rate of unsheltered homelessness among children to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to housing by September 15 of each year.
- Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-A6 Clarifies the conditions in which a defendant in a trial for eviction based on nonpayment may move the court to reschedule the trial. Clarifies documentation that a defendant must provide to a plaintiff. Updates language on the public notice for tenants who are facing potential eviction for nonpayment. Updates the operative date for changes to the public notice to September 1, 2025.

BACKGROUND:

Adjusted for population size, Oregon ranks third in the nation for people experiencing homelessness, with nearly 48 of every 1,000 Oregonians experiencing homelessness. Oregon ranks first in the nation for unsheltered homelessness among families with children, and the number of children experiencing unsheltered homelessness in the state is 14 times higher than the national average ([State of the State's Housing, 2024](#)). Housing assistance may involve support in finding affordable, stable housing or assistance with paying rent and other living expenses. Some housing assistance programs are designed to support certain populations, such as [veterans](#), people who are [aged 65 or older, or under the age of six](#), or people living with [HIV/AIDS](#). Federally, the Housing Choice Voucher Program (also known as [Section 8](#)) helps low-income families, elderly persons, veterans, and disabled individuals afford housing in the private market.

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The Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) and the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) administer the state's housing assistance programs. OHCS administers the Oregon Emergency Rental Assistance Program ([OERAP](#)), which provides assistance for renters in Oregon with qualifying incomes and employment situations who are at risk for housing instability or homelessness. For Oregon Health Plan members, OHA administers the Health Related Social Needs ([HRSN](#)) housing benefit, which may help eligible members with rental assistance, utility payments, tenancy support, and home modifications in order to keep people in their homes.

Senate Bill 690 A requires courts to reschedule eviction hearings for certain parents of young children and directs Oregon Housing and Community Services to prioritize certain parents of young children in rules, policies, and programs.