Submitter: A M

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1523

I believe, while well intentioned, this proposal is flawed.

The purpose of the tenant portal for applications is to allow access to applying universally. Anyone, anywhere with internet can apply for an apartment. This limits that to persons with a printer, scanner, and access to the internet anyway if they aren't currently local. It provides no timeframes for tenant responses and places the burden on landlords. If an application is mailed out and not received back for 2 weeks, is the landlord required to hold the apartment during that time? What if there's an online or in-person application submitted?
A paper application is already a requirement under ADA, so all this legislation does is complicate the application process for landlords and give a false impression to applicants that because they asked, they can take their time with applying without risk. What if I apply to a dozen apartments myself just to keep my competitors on the hook for applications I'll never submit? Since Oregon eliminated the right for landlords to collect a holding deposit and screening fees are refundable if no screening has taken place, there is no real risk for me.

This proposal does not answer enough questions that NEED to be answered before legislation like this can be passed. Please don't rush to pass something that is so very vague.