

To the Oregon Senate Housing and Development Committee,
Regarding SB 282

I am writing this in opposition of SB 282-1, which would extend the Moratorium on Evictions for Nonpayment of Rent. I am writing this as an owner of a single rental property in the State of Oregon. I am writing this as a hard-working member of society. I am writing this as a father, husband and citizen of Oregon.

I understand the financial hardships that those in our State have had to face due to this Pandemic. I understand that some renters are having difficulty paying rent due to loss of jobs and income due to this Pandemic. My wife works in health care while I work in law enforcement. We have three young children. As you could understand, our lives have also been turned upside down this year and we too are struggling to make ends meet while working and trying to keep our children in school and educated.

I would agree that some citizens do need help with rental assistance. I would agree that eviction, for those who are facing loss of jobs and income because of this Pandemic deserve assistance; however, this should be a case by case basis. Property owners should have a say in this Moratorium.

In our case, we have had good renters in our property since May of 2020. We have just been told that our renters are filing for hardship and have not paid rent for two months already. This is our mortgage. My wife and I, already stretched thin, are now more burdened. Our renters did not have jobs to begin with and we are now learning that they are filing for hardship, due to this pandemic, citing loss of income. This is not the truth. I learned that our renters allowed another adult to stay at our property, without authorization; however due to this pandemic I had allowed it.

I feel as though my wife and I are now getting taken advantage of. We have no say as property owners. We have no outlet for help. This is a burden that could ruin me, my wife and my family financially. We understand the risks involved in being property owners; however, just like renters, we did not foresee a Pandemic in our future. I am not a wealthy land-owner. I am a hard-working citizen who rented our last house in hopes of assisting my retirement.

Please allow for property owners to advocate for themselves.

Please allow property owners to oppose fraudulent hardship claims.

Please advocate for a real solution for struggling renters and support SB 330.

Please, oppose SB 282-1.

Thank you,
Matt Messina