

Support Commercial Tenants:
Pass HB 2966, -1 and Extend the Repayment Period

Our community is held together by the amazing retailers and restaurant that employ, nurture and define this City. Without the vibrant and diverse offerings we fail to be all the things that make Portland amazing. Everything in our power should be done to preserve and support the small businesses that have struggled to survive during this time.

As a part of the commercial eviction moratorium passed by HB 4213A in the first special session of 2020, back rent accrued during the moratorium (between April 1-September 30, 2020) is currently due March 31st, 2021. While \$100M was allocated by the E-Board in January 2021 for commercial rent assistance, current estimates don't put the first round of relief out the door until mid-April and the second round in May.

Small businesses need more time. Extending the protected repayment period for another six months will provide time for state funds to be allocated through the commercial rent relief program, additional federal dollars to come to small businesses through the American Rescue Plan, and for Oregon to more fully re-open as we make progress against COVID-19.

HB 2966 with the -1 Amendment will extend the repayment period until September 30th, 2021, protecting commercial tenants from eviction due to back-rent accrued during the moratorium, as long as they continue to pay their current rent.