



SB 330 Oppose

April 6, 2021

Chair Jama, Vice-Chair Linthicum, and Members of the Committee

The Oregon Women's Right Coalition has been advocating for equality for women and girls since the early 1970's. Our original coalition was in support of the Equal Rights Amendment. We broadened our efforts for equality to include long term looks at revenue sources and the programs they can support through the ways and means process.

We oppose SB 330 and all the amendments. We feel this approach to helping both tenants and landlords is misdirected, is not as immediate and is more cumbersome than the approach taken in the Special Session in 2020.

When this bill was proposed in December of 2020 the end of year \$25 billion pot of money made available to states by the Federal government did not exist. (See previous testimony regarding SB 330).

In addition, there is another pot of money in the March 2021 ARPA for landlords and tenants.

First and foremost, ARPA includes \$21.55 billion in dedicated emergency rental assistance funding, which continues federal support of state and local rental assistance programs across the country. Combined with the \$25 billion in rental assistance funding allocated in the [Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021](#), these funds are a significant step in closing the growing gap of tens of billions of dollars of outstanding rental debt that have accumulated during the pandemic. Plainly put, the funds are a lifesaver for both renters and housing providers who have been hardest hit.

<https://www.naahq.org/news-publications/latest-stimulus-brings-more-rental-assistance>

The direct appropriation to Oregon Housing and Community Services for the Landlord fund coupled with legislation that makes the landlords 100% whole, including those who have already been approved for the program makes more sense.

The OHCS would not have to devise rules for certification for the Department of Revenue. The Department of Revenue does not have to track tax credits for up to five years.

As we said above, the money is more immediate for landlords.

A Tax Credit is an awkward and incorrect way to award dollars to landlords and for smaller landlords more cumbersome than direct and more immediate cash.

Please do not forward this bill for further consideration. It is not worthy.

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