

Hello Committee:

I support SB 5555. And I am a renter in Gresham and a member of TLC of CAT and a BRU member. Some of my elderly neighbors have now been priced out of Gresham.

I have concerns for many of the people and neighbors I hear from who are behind in their rents because of Covid. They are unable to work because the doors are shut to keep Covid infections from spreading. In the Rockwood Area there are many people who are behind in rent (by several months) and were working at minimum wage jobs.

My neighbors are afraid of becoming houseless and ending up on the streets. Many are bus riders, some have cars. The mental anguish my neighbors feel is sad to hear. The fear is real. Even the children know fear.

1. How will we know if the Land Lord gets money from the state or other agencies on our behalf of all renters? I would like to see that checks are mailed out and the Tenant and the Land Lord have to sign the check.

2. Where can these folks go to request help? I understand there are only 16 agencies that can dole out money to help people in need. Time to add a few more agencies to the list. I keep hearing it is like the "Game Of Thrones" to just get a little help for electricity.

3. Renters in Rural counties are being bullied by Land Lords. They are being evicted, Never mind the EVICTION MORATORIUM :How will they get these funds to keep them housed? What is to keep the Land Lords from Evicting tenants after they get the money to keep renters Housed?

4. Don't let Oregon's melting Pot spring a hole. Act now. Too many lives are hanging in the balance of fear, mental health. Oregon does not need 90,000 more tents on the streets.

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