

Submitter: Joe Schonbrun

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB799

Chair Jama, Vice-Chair Anderson, and Members of the Committee,
Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Joe Schonbrun and I live in Portland. I'm testifying in support of SB 799 because the system right now moves so fast and is not fair for tenants. I was evicted last month after making several settlement attempts and, by the time I connected with a rent assistance agency that could help me, it was too late and my landlord wouldn't take it. Rent assistance was going to pay everything I owed plus three months' future rent, but they still wouldn't take the money. My case went to trial and I lost, so I had to move out and now have an eviction judgment against me.

Since Christmas I have been homeless and have been going to numerous hotels and AirBnB's when I can afford it but have had to sleep in my car when I can't. I have thankfully found a new home after a long and difficult month and a half that left me financially drained.

If this bill were in place when I needed it last month, I would still be in my home. I hope you will listen to people like me and vote yes on SB 799.

Thank you.

Joe