

Submitter: Christy Hernandez

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB799

Good morning and thank you for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Christy Hernandez, I am a tenant living in Salem and last year, my family and I were homeless for almost seven months.

The bill we are here to talk about today is about giving renters time to find help and avoid eviction and homelessness. My family and I faced harassment and threats from our previous landlord and we had no choice but to leave our home. My family and I were in a shelter for nearly seven months because since COVID took over our lives, it has been impossible to catch up. A little more time to catch up, and time to wait for rental assistance to come would have been a blessing before we became homeless.

Most tenants don't understand the eviction process, they just know they will lose their homes and it's no joke. It's scary, especially seeing your children's scared faces when you tell them it's time to go and they ask where we are going and you don't know what to say.

Families need the time this bill will provide, to find that help and to understand what is happening to them. Please support SB799 for families like mine that needed more time.