

Submitter: Jon Taylor
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development
Measure: SB799

Jon Taylor
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Senator Kayse Jama
Chair, Senate Housing and Development Committee
900 Court St. NE, S-409
Salem, OR 97301

Chair Jama, Vice-Chair Anderson, Members of the Committee:

I strongly urge passage of SB 799, insuring that renters have enough time to challenge false accusations or get rent assistance if needed. It also solves the problem of some landlords refusing to accept rent payments. This bill is part of Governor Kotek's emergency legislative package to provide \$100 million for rent assistance. SB611/HB2733 also limits the exorbitant and abusive rent increases many landlords are imposing this year. The Rental Market Data Bill creates greater transparency in the rental housing sector. All these factors aim to create greater availability of affordable housing in Oregon.

As an 85-year old retiree living in Eugene, I have seen the growing problem of the shortage of affordable housing for most Oregonians, especially young adults, women, low-income, minorities and seniors. Demand for housing assistance and advocacy from 2020 to the present has grown to more than 250 cases per month in the Eugene and Springfield area. Recent surveys indicate that between 12 -37% of those who are evicted become homeless. According to the state economist, more than 50% of Oregon renters do not have enough money for food, medicine and the basic necessity after the rent is paid.

Communities already facing historical and systemic barriers to jobs, housing, health care opportunity and a sustainable income are paying an unfair price for Oregon's unjust and rushed eviction laws. I strongly urge you to pass SB 799 as quickly as possible.

If you have questions or want to contact me, I can be reached by email at

jtaylor@mac.com. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jon Taylor