



February 15, 2023

House Committee on Housing and Homelessness  
Oregon Legislature  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Chair Dexter, Vice-Chairs Gamba and Helfrich, and Members of the Committee,

211info strongly urges your support of HB 2001, which is an important element of the response to our housing crisis. The bill ensures a focus on youth homelessness prevention, provides innovative approaches to addressing housing supply barriers, and contains critical measures to help prevent eviction-caused homelessness.

Since July 2022, 211info has seen a 63% increase in the number of calls they receive from Oregonians seeking eviction services and housing. These calls are coming from all 36 of Oregon's counties, with 80% identifying as low income. Additionally, they saw a 17% increase in eviction prevention legal assistance following the end of the eviction moratorium. It is very clear that a good number of Oregonians are still struggling to pay their rent and are in desperate need of the protections included in this bill.

While we support the passage of the entire bill, we are particularly writing to urge support of Sections 14-26 of HB 2001, which contain essential and reasonable negotiated improvements to Oregon's eviction statutes to promote stability and payment rather than displacement and eviction. These Sections of the bill:

- Expand the time after a notice of nonpayment before being taken to court from 72 hours to 10 days.
- Provide that nonpayment eviction notices and court forms should include information about where to find rent assistance and legal assistance, and provide access to translation of these forms.
- Amend first appearance and trial timelines to ensure that tenants have a greater chance of finding help before their hearing.
- Provide that an eviction case will be dismissed if payment is made before final judgment.
- Make the default judgment process more fair.
- Streamline the eviction sealing process for those who qualify for sealing, removing a procedural barrier to future housing stability.

211info urges you to pass HB 2001 as it reflects the urgency of the crisis too many Oregonians are living with due to lack of housing, inadequate services, and eviction statutes designed for displacement instead of stability.

Thank you to the legislature and to Gov. Kotek for your fast action on this package to help our communities respond to the crisis of homelessness and to improve stability and safety for individuals and families across the state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Herman".

Dan Herman, CEO, 211info