

## **SB 690A:** Keeping Babies Housed

## What?

**SB 690A** cares for Oregon's most vulnerable – our babies – by helping to keep them stably housed in their crucial first 12 months. We do this through prioritizing existing resources and offering common-sense legal protections.

From the Desk of Senator Lisa Reynolds Line Reynolds

## Why?

Babies are the demographic at highest risk of eviction in the US, and Oregon has the highest rate of unsheltered child homelessness – 14x the national average. This is especially dangerous in the critical first 12 months of a baby's life, when crucial brain development happens and babies build bonds with their parent or caregivers. Trauma and homelessness in this time period has drastic effects across the lifespan.

If a family with a 0-12 month-old baby is approved for existing HRSN rental assistance, **they cannot be evicted in the period between approval and receiving funds** for back rent. 2. OHCS is directed to prioritize families with 0-12 month-olds in existing and future housing support programs. This bill does not create any new programs.

How?

This bill **passed unanimously** out of the Senate Committee on Rules.

Lisa Reynolds, MD

