



House Committee On Labor and Workplace
Standards
900 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301

February 6th, 2024

Chair Grayber, Vice-Chairs Munoz and Elmer, and Members of the Committee,

SETA is a non-profit, public service organization dedicated to renters' rights and interests. We provide free community resources, including our free Tenant Hotline, and we directly serve about 220 renter households every month through combinations of several programs.

SETA urges you to vote in support of HB 3024.

Over 60% of the population we serve are low, very low, or no-income. Our trained staff are available to help a tenant through any issue - be it how to address repairs, how to apply for rent assistance, and occasionally how to seek unemployment insurance.

Oregon's ["state of the states housing" report](#) painted a sobering, but clear picture. Finding a new home is unbelievably challenging for tenants across Oregon. For low-income renters, losing your home a direct path to homelessness. Displacement due to nonpayment of rent, which is [overwhelmingly one of the top reasons](#) of evictions, showcases how many Oregonians are struggling to keep up with even basic needs.

Removing the benefit reduction penalty will provide tenants with more time to find new employment, continue to apply for rent assistance, or otherwise stay stably housed while in a period of transition.

If you'd like to connect with me, please reach out to tmorris@springfieldeugenetenantassociation.com. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tim".

Timothy Morris



Executive Director
Springfield Eugene Tenant Association