

House Committee on Rules 900 Court St. NE Oregon State Capitol Salem, OR 97301

June 18, 2025

Chair Bowman, Vice-Chairs Drazan and Pham, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of Multifamily NW, we write today in support of SB 690 A and the -6 amendment as it comes before the House Rules Committee.

Multifamily NW represents nearly 300,000 rental units across Oregon. Our members are committed to providing safe, stable housing across a wide range of communities and income levels. We are pleased to now support SB 690 A – a bill we initially opposed – because of the meaningful and collaborative work that transformed it into a policy we believe in.

SB 690 A creates a narrow pathway for delaying an eviction trial when a tenant with a child under 12 months of age has already been approved for rent assistance through the Oregon Health Authority or a Coordinated Care Organization. This change ensures that the burden of verifying eligibility rests with the agency providing the assistance – not the housing provider – which makes the process more practical and enforceable while still protecting vulnerable families.

Over the past several weeks, we engaged in honest, productive conversations with legislators, agency staff, and housing advocates. The result is a more targeted, functional program that supports at-risk families while ensuring clarity for providers. It balances urgency with practicality, and serves as a model for how policy should be crafted.

We especially want to recognize Senator Reynolds and her staff for their leadership and partnership throughout this process. Their openness and diligence were instrumental in bringing stakeholders together to find common ground.

We urge the Committee to advance SB 690 A and thank you for your ongoing work to protect vulnerable Oregonians and strengthen our housing system.

Sincerely,

Zach Lindahl

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