



March 9, 2021

Senator Kayse Jama, Chair
Senate Committee on Housing and Development
900 Court Street, NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for SB 282-1

Dear Chair Jama and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to share support for SB 282-1, which is an important part of our state's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the pending eviction and debt crisis facing tenants and property owners once the eviction moratorium is lifted.

The LOC represents all 241 incorporated cities in Oregon, which have been leading on-the-ground response to the COVID-19 pandemic and related economic impacts. Cities large and small prioritized federal CARES Act funding and local resources to provide relief to residents experiencing housing and food instability. In partnership with counties, community action agencies and local community-based organizations, cities funded emergency rental assistance, utility assistance, non-congregate shelter facilities and operations, childcare, food, and more.

While new vaccines bring hope for an end to the pandemic, economic recovery for Oregon's tenants and property owners will take time. SB 282-1 is a necessary measure to ensure that local government and community partners can administer critical federal and state resources. The LOC also supports additional protections in the -1 amendments to ensure tenants are not punished for the economic impacts of the pandemic.

Cities remain your committed partners in COVID-19 response and relief for our shared constituents. SB 282-1 is an important part of the comprehensive approach needed to maintain stable housing and support Oregon's path to economic recovery.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ariel Nelson
League of Oregon Cities