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June 15, 2021

House Committee on Rules
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Smith Warner, Vice-Chair Drazan, Vice Chair Holvey, and Committee Members,

I am writing you on behalf of the Metropolitan Alliance for Common Good (MACG) in strong support for SB278-2 amendments, which would prevent the eviction of tenants who have applied for rental assistance.

Metropolitan Alliance for Common Good (MACG) is an alliance of faith based and civic organizations who work together for issues that affect the good of the whole community. We represent 23 member institutions, nearly all of which interact daily with community members who face struggles with finding and keeping stable housing. We have observed first-hand the disparate impact the Covid epidemic has had on the housing security of the BIPOC community. We have also seen first-hand the way technical barriers such as access to computers or smart phones have made it difficult or impossible for some tenants to apply for assistance through the recently launched assistance portal.

We must act quickly so both landlords and tenants can know that they will have time to access already approved federal and state funds before a catastrophic loss of housing and stability occur. It is critical that you do everything you can to ensure Oregon's recovery leaves no one behind and we can emerge stronger together.

We have a truly short time period before 90,000 people are at risk of eviction on June 30. The time to act is now! We urge you to pass SB 278 with the -2 amendments to help ensure that people waiting for emergency rental assistance are not evicted.

Sincerely,

David Fikstad
MACG Legislative Action Team

On behalf of [Metropolitan Alliance for Common Good \(MACG\)](#)

- [Bienestar](#) (Hillsboro, OR)
- [Bethel Lutheran Church](#) (Portland, OR)
- Community Justice Collective

- [Havurah Shalom](#) (Portland, OR)
- [Immaculate Heart Parish](#) (Portland, OR)
- [King of Kings Lutheran Church](#) (Oak Grove, OR)
- [Kol Shalom Community for Humanistic Judaism](#) (Portland, OR)
- [Lake Oswego United Methodist Church](#) (Lake Oswego, OR)
- [Leaven Community / Salt and Light Lutheran Church](#) (Portland, OR)
- [Metanoia Peace Community/Peace House](#) (Portland, OR)
- [Milwaukie Lutheran Church](#) (Milwaukie, OR)
- [OHSU Department of Family Medicine](#) (Portland, OR)
- [OHSU Health Equity Circle](#) (Portland, OR)
- [PHOENIX Rising Transitions](#) (Gresham, OR)
- [Providence BOB Program](#) (Portland, OR)
- [Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus & Mary](#) (Marylhurst, OR)
- [Spirit of Grace](#) (Beaverton, OR)
- [St. Andrew Lutheran Church](#) (Beaverton, OR)
- [St. Andrew Parish](#) (Portland, OR)
- [St. Anthony's Parish](#) (Tigard, OR)
- [St. Charles Parish](#) (Portland, OR)
- [Storyline Community](#) (Milwaukie, OR)
- [The Flame](#), (Portland, OR)