

I completely support rental assistance. The only thing worse than our - locally and nationally - current housing situation would be to saddle renters with housing debt they may never be able to overcome.

A national emergency requires the most serious of responses by all levels of government. I'm pleased with the efforts put forth in this legislative session. This bill is an important piece.

According to the National Low Income Housing Coalition in their "Cost of Eviction" report <https://nlihc.org/sites/default/files/costs-of-covid19-evictions.pdf> it will cost our country \$63 billion - Oregon \$633 million - in society's costs should we not help keep people from being evicted. These costs include: shelters, mental and physical health adverse affects, juvenile delinquency, etc.

Let's be smart and head off not only negative financial effects to everyone but the trauma of eviction by helping out distressed renters as soon as possible.

Thanks.