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Oregon Legislature Extends Repayment Period for Residential Renters

Senate Bill 282 will extend the timeline for Oregon renters to repay back rent accrued during the 2020 pandemic to February 28, 2022, provides additional protections

SALEM, OR— Today, the Oregon legislature voted to pass [Senate Bill 282](#), a bill that extends the repayment period for residential rent owed during the COVID state of emergency to February 28, 2022. The bill looks to protect Oregonians, especially the state’s most vulnerable populations, including Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities, who are more likely to be renters and have been disproportionately impacted by COVID. The legislation also ensure that Oregon tenants and landlords can get the full benefit of the hundreds of millions of dollars in federal rent assistance coming to our state.

“SB 282 will help set the stage for a more equitable recovery by preventing the fallout from this pandemic from following the most vulnerable Oregonians for years to come,” said [Rep. Julie Fahey](#) (D-Eugene and Junction City), who carried the bill on the House floor. “This legislation offers protections to both tenants and landlords, and ultimately ensures that we help the Oregonians who have been impacted the hardest by the COVID-19 pandemic.”

In addition to the repayment period extension, this legislation also temporarily allows families to share housing that would be in violation of landlord-imposed occupancy limits and protects against the use of COVID-era rental and credit records when tenants apply to rent in the future.

“Oregonians are coming to the end of a once-in-a-generation struggle, and we need to give them an opportunity to recover,” said [Rep. Wlnsvey Campos](#) (D-Aloha). “This legislation was negotiated with landlord and tenant advocates at the table and provides necessary protections for both as we plan for the distribution of federal dollars to help keep families in their homes.”

[Senator Kayse Jama](#) (D-East Portland) championed Senate Bill 282 in the State Senate where it passed on April 14, 2021 with a vote of 25-5. “The housing and rent crisis has generational impacts. BIPOC Oregonians have some of the highest rates of housing instability and have struggled disproportionately by the COVID-19 pandemic. SB 282 will help ensure we do not exacerbate nor solidify this crisis. We can combat it, SB 282 does just that,” said Senator Jama.

SB 282 passed 39-17, and now heads to the Governor’s desk.

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