

Sample letter to legislators: Repairs

<p>Put both your address and the address of the Legislator you are writing at the top of your letter.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Your Name Your Address City, State Zip Date</p> <p>Legislator's Name State Capitol Salem, OR 97310</p>
<p>Describe your problem. Tell your own, personal story.</p>	<p>Dear (Senator or Representative) <i>Name of Legislator</i>,</p> <p>I am a tenant in your district concerned with condition of my rental home, and the difficulty many tenants face in getting needed repairs made. I've made written requests to my landlord several times regarding repair needs in my home. (Describe your repair problems.)</p> <p>Unfortunately, the landlord will not make the repairs, and I've found that Oregon Landlord/Tenant Law provides little recourse for tenants in my situation. There is no enforcement of the State's housing maintenance codes found in ORS 90.320, and there is little penalty for landlords who fail to meet their responsibilities.</p> <p>This problem is made worse by the lack of affordable housing in our community. Despite the problems I'm having, I'm unable to move because of the cost of moving and the lack of affordable places to move to.</p>
<p>Tell your legislator what you want them to do.</p> <p>If you live in the district of the Legislator you are writing, be sure to say so. And always ask for a response.</p>	<p>As your constituent, I ask you to look at and challenge the injustice that tenants face and to respond to the huge shortage of affordable housing in our community. The state must find ways to enforce it's own housing maintenance codes for rental homes. The state must also do its part to address the affordable housing crisis, and support the efforts of local governments to create more affordable housing.</p> <p>Please feel free to contact me at (<i>your phone number or the above address</i>) or the Community Alliance of Tenants to learn more about renters' rights issues.</p>
<p>Sign your letter.</p>	<p>Sincerely,</p> <p>(your name here)</p>