

Communication from Public

Name: Jane Demian
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Comments for Public Posting: I am writing in partial support of this Motion. I agree that landlords should work with tenants who have lost income as a result of COVID-19, and should help secure rental assistance for their tenants if it does not increase the tenants' declared income. I don't agree with turning unpaid rent into consumer debt because the debt will go on the tenants' credit report and hurt their chances of securing housing and other economic arrangements in the future. Tenants who have lost income as a result of COVID-19 should not be punished for something that is occurring beyond their control. Tenants who have lost their jobs are trying to make ends meet, and the only way they can do that is to hold onto their rent money. If they cannot pay their rent they should NOT be saddled with a huge debt that needs to be repaid after the crisis lifts, and certainly should not be evicted because of inability to re-pay owed rent. Similarly, mortgages that cannot be paid should not become consumer debt. These financial burdens need to be suspended. State and / or Federal legislation that is connected with suspending rents and mortgages needs to be pursued so that rent and mortgage debt is suspended.