

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE*

Department:	Dept. Contact/Phone:	CBO Contact/Phone:
Legislative	Jeff Simms 206-475-9046	

** Note that the Summary and Fiscal Note describes the version of the bill or resolution as introduced; final legislation including amendments may not be fully described.*

1. BILL SUMMARY

Legislation Title: AN ORDINANCE modifying Ordinance 126081 concerning repayment plans for rental arrears accrued during or within six months after the termination of the civil emergency declared on March 3, 2020.

Summary and Background of the Legislation: This bill would amend Ordinance 126081, which, among other actions, set the requirements for the repayment of rental arrears accrued during or within six months after the termination of the COVID civil emergency. The bill amends the requirements for the repayment plan and establishes a defense to eviction if a repayment plan that conforms with the new requirements is not offered. The new requirements proposed by the bill align with the requirements laid out in RCW 59.18.630 except tying to the City's COVID civil emergency, not the state's.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project? Yes No

3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Does this legislation amend the Adopted Budget? Yes No

If there are no changes to appropriations, revenues, or positions, please delete the table below.

Does the legislation have other financial impacts to The City of Seattle that are not reflected in the above, including direct or indirect, short-term or long-term costs? No

Are there financial costs or other impacts of *not* implementing the legislation? The revisions to the repayment plan to conform with the state's requirements will ensure that households have the ability to repay rental arrears in a way that does not increase the risk of eviction. As a result, the bill will protect public health and support stable housing, decrease the likelihood that individuals and families will fall into homelessness, enable tenants in the City whose income and ability to work is affected due to COVID-19 to remain in their homes; and increase the ability of some tenants to repay rental arrears.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- a. **Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?** The ordinance revises a defense to eviction.

- b. Is a public hearing required for this legislation?** No
- c. Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?** No
- d. Does this legislation affect a piece of property?** No
- e. Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative. Does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? What is the Language Access plan for any communications to the public?**
This bill will benefit tenants whose income and ability to pay rent have been impacted by COVID, which had disparate racial impacts. In addition, the September 2018 Seattle Women’s Commission and the King County Bar Association’s report *Losing Home: The Human Cost of Eviction in Seattle* found that the most disadvantaged groups face the highest likelihood of eviction. As a result, it is likely that historically disadvantaged communities will disproportionately benefit from reasonable options for repaying rental arrears.
- f. Climate Change Implications**
 - 1. Emissions: Is this legislation likely to increase or decrease carbon emissions in a material way?** No
 - 2. Resiliency: Will the action(s) proposed by this legislation increase or decrease Seattle’s resiliency (or ability to adapt) to climate change in a material way? If so, explain. If it is likely to decrease resiliency in a material way, describe what will or could be done to mitigate the effects.** No
- g. If this legislation includes a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion: What are the specific long-term and measurable goal(s) of the program? How will this legislation help achieve the program’s desired goal(s)?** Not applicable.

Summary Attachments: