

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE*

Department:	Dept. Contact/Phone:	CBO Contact/Phone:
LEG	Freeman / 48178	NA

** 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:

A RESOLUTION calling on Governor Inslee to impose an immediate moratorium on rent payments and urging the Governor to call on federal legislators and the Trump administration to impose an immediate moratorium on rent and mortgage payments; and calling on federal legislators and the Trump administration to impose an immediate moratorium on rent and mortgage payments.

Summary and background of the Legislation:

This legislation calls on the Governor, specific Unites States Representatives, and the President of the United States to exercise their authority to impose an immediate moratorium on residential and commercial mortgage and rent payments.

On January 21, 2020 the first case of COVID-19 in the United States was identified in Washington. On February 24, 2020 the first death in the United States occurred in Washington. On February 29, 2020, Governor Jay Inslee declared a state of emergency. On March 3, 2020, Mayor Jenny Durkan issued a proclamation of civil emergency to ramp up the City's efforts to prepare for and respond to local cases of coronavirus. Because of the state of emergency and the impact on service and other industries many Seattle workers will lose their jobs. In the week preceding March 25, unemployment claims to the Washington Department of Employment Security increased by 700 percent. The Federal Reserve has found that 40 percent of Americans do not have cash on hand to cover an unexpected expense of \$400.

In consultation with the Seattle City Council, Mayor Jenny Durkan has ordered a 60-day moratorium on residential and commercial evictions for nonpayment of rent due to COVID-19 loss of income, but renters are still obligated to pay landlords, and mortgage-holders are still obligated to pay lenders.

According to Zillow, the average monthly rent on an apartment in Seattle is now \$2,600, one of the highest in the nation. the Housing Appendix to the Seattle Comprehensive Plan indicates that extremely low income Seattleites (earning less than 30 percent of Adjusted Median Income (AMI)) and very low income households (earning less than 50 percent of AMI) continue to be the overwhelming majority of households facing severe housing cost burdens, while 47 percent of all Seattleites are rent burdened. Maintaining the obligation to pay would mean that those who defer payments will accumulate significant personal debt.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

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

If yes, please fill out the table below and attach a new (if creating a project) or marked-up (if amending) CIP Page to the Council Bill. Please include the spending plan as part of the attached CIP Page. If no, please delete the table.

3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Does this legislation amend the Adopted Budget? ___ Yes X No

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?

NA

Is there financial cost or other impacts of *not* implementing the legislation?

NA

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

a. Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?

NA

b. Is a public hearing required for this legislation?

NA

c. Does this legislation require landlords or sellers of real property to provide information regarding the property to a buyer or tenant?

NA

d. Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?

NA

e. Does this legislation affect a piece of property?

NA

f. 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?

NA

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).

NA

List attachments/exhibits below: