



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BOLI will help landlords navigate housing law and new Section 8 protections during upcoming seminars
Free seminars will provide guidance on source of income rules, disability law in rental housing

PORTLAND, OR—Labor Commissioner Avakian announced today that a series of 15 upcoming civil rights seminars on housing law will help landlords understand Oregon’s new Section 8 rules and provide an overview of disability protections and other frequent areas of landlord/tenant disputes.

Starting Monday, the Bureau of Labor and Industries will offer two-hour seminars around the state free of charge to members of the public.

“Oregon’s new civil rights protection mean that Oregonians cannot be turned away and denied a place to live because of income,” said Labor Commissioner Avakian. **“With increasing rents and housing costs, it’s important that families have a fair shot at housing near their workplaces or children’s schools. Our hope is that these seminars will help landlords understand the rules and avoid potential mistakes or violations.”**

The forums will focus on the common area of civil right complaints in housing and an overview of Oregon’s new Section 8 law (HB 2639, championed by House Speaker Tina Kotek).

The seminars will answer questions such as:

- If a disability is not obvious, what information may a housing provider request from a person with a disability in support of a requested accommodation?
- What are common pitfalls around familial status and rental properties?
- What do landlords need to know about protected classes in Oregon civil rights law?
- How are “no pets” policies affected by tenants with assistance animals?
- What do housing providers need to know about tenant-on-tenant harassment?
- How does BOLI’s civil rights process work?
- What resources exist for housing providers to answer other tough questions?

BOLI secured \$20,000 in partnership grant funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to conduct the sessions. No pre-registration is required, and attendees are encouraged to arrive early to ensure a seat.

Housing experts from BOLI will hold the first seminar **Monday, September 29th** in Portland at the Portland State Office Building at 800 NE Oregon, Room 1B from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Training Schedule	
Wednesday, October 15(10 a.m. to noon)	Hillsboro
Monday, October 20 (9:00 to 11:00 a.m.)	Ontario
Tuesday, October 21 (9:00 to 11:00 a.m.)	Bend
Wednesday, October 22 (9:00 to 11:00 a.m.)	Klamath Falls
Wednesday, October 22 (2:30 to 4:30 p.m.)	Medford
Thursday, October 23 (10:00 am to noon)	Eugene
Thursday, October 23 (2:30 to 4:30 p.m.)	Salem
Tuesday, October 28 (9:00 to 11:00 a.m.)	North Portland
Wednesday, October 29 (9:00 to 11:00 a.m.)	Oregon City
Wednesday, November 12 (10:00 a.m. to noon)	Eugene
Thursday, November 13(2:30 to 4:30 p.m.)	Medford
Tuesday, November 18 (10:00 am to noon)	Salem
Wednesday, November 19 (2:00 to 4:00 p.m.)	SE Portland
Tuesday, December 9 (1:00 to 3:00 p.m.)	Portland
	Portland State Office Building 800 NE Oregon Street, Room 1A Portland, OR 97232

For more information about BOLI's efforts to support Oregon employers and protect Oregon's workforce, visit <http://www.oregon.gov/BOLI>. The agency's Technical Assistance for Employers program can be reached at (971) 673-0824.

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