**FRIDAY** 

Some sun with a couple of

showers; chilly

Partial sunshine

**SUNDAY** 

Chance for a couple of showers

City

Anchorage

Atlantic City

Bridgeport, CT

Burlington, VT

Caribou, ME

Cincinnat

Cleveland

Colorado Springs Columbia, MO Columbia, SC

Columbus, GA Columbus, OH

Des Moines

Duluth

Austin

Clouds and sunshine

28°

Times of clouds and sun

6:28am/5:05pm Mercury 6:29am/5:01pm Venus 7:16am/7:01pm 7:14am/7:04pm 10:03am/1:27am Jupiter 5:49am/3:54pm 5:46am/3:51pm 5:17am/2:57pm Uranus 8:44am/10:42pm 8:40am/10:38pm First Full Last New Mar 21 Mar 28 Apr 4 Apr 11

Tonight's sky: Arcturus of Bootes is a red Source: Jim Todd, OMSI **UV INDEX TODAY** 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m.

The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number

the greater the need for eye and skin protection. 0-2 Low 3-5 Moderate; 6-7 High; 8-10 Very High; 11+ Extreme **ROAD CONDITONS** For web cameras of our passes, go to www.bendbulletin.com/webcams I-84 at Cabbage Hill: Clouds and sun today. Rain and snow showers tonight. US 20 at Santiam Pass: Breezy today with rain and snow. Snow showers tonight. US 26 at Gov't Camp: Cloudy today with light US 26 at Ochoco Divide: Mostly cloudy and ORE 58 at Willamette Pass: Cloudy today with a passing shower or two. Snowfall of 2-4

inches tonight.

#### ORE 138 at Diamond Lake: Mild today with afternoon rain. Rain, then snow tonight. SKI REPORT In inches as of 5 p.m. vesterday Ski resort Base New snow Anthony Lakes Mtn 0-81 Hoodoo Ski Area 0-94 Mt. Ashland 62-68 Mt Bachelor 104-122 Mt. Hood Meadows 0-202 Mt. Hood Ski Bowl 62-89 Timberline Lodge 0-170 Willamette Pass 0-55 Aspen / Snowmass, CO 52-74 Mammoth Mtn. Ski. CA 74-112 Squaw Valley, CA 0-121 Park City Mountain, U7 57-70

52/34/0.00

55/23/0.00

62/31/0.00

50/43/r

58/35/0

Showers

T-storms

Rain

Snow

\* \* \*

Flurries

48/42/r

Medford

**OREGON WEATHER** Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows EAST: Partly sunny, breezy and mild °51/44 Thursday, Colder Seaside Hood 51/45 Thursday night and Cannon Beach 50/45 Friday; a few rain and Hillsboro Portland snow showers 52/42 Pendleton 68/41 **CENTRAL:** Partly to Tillamook 58/34 mostly cloudy and mild Thursday; a 52/45 59/37 Joseph Lincoln City Camp 48/31 shower or two late 51/43 Colder Friday; rain and Warm Springs 62/36 51/42 • Baker City • 50/43 WEST: Periods of rain Camp Sherman Redmond Corvallis 50/41 Thursday, then breezy Yachats John •Prineville 62/36 Thursday night and Sisters 58/33 50/43 Day 61/36 Ontario Friday; showers likely \*Bend 58/36 Eugene A little cooler Friday. 53/29 Sunriver . 71/42 • La Pine 52/27 73/43 **OREGON EXTREMES** Coos Bay Fort Rock **YESTERDAY** 52/44 High: 65° 49/26 Christmas Valley Silver Lake 52/27 Jordan Valley 60/38 • Frenchgler 53/29 Low: 8° Marsh 45/26 at Crater Lake Port Orford Grants Burns Junction Pass 52/40 Chiloquin 47/30 64/37 54/34 Medford 58/38 Gold Beach 50/45 Klamath AccuWeather McDermitt 60/36 Get the new app Yesterday Yesterday Yesterday Hi/Lo/Prec Hi/Lo/W Hi/Lo/W Hi/Lo/Prec Hi/Lo/W Hi/Lo/W Hi/Lo/Prec. Hi/Lo/W Hi/Lo/W 54/31/0.00 Astoria 51/44/r 50/41/r La Grande La Pine 54/25/0.00 62/35/pc 50/30/sh Portland 62/36/0.00 54/44/sh 54/43/r

54/19/0.00

58/38/r

50/42/1

52/45/r

54/38/sh

49/41/r

64/31/Tr

Prineville

61/19/0.00

65/32/0.00

61/31/0.00

60/33/sh

55/41/r

52/31/pc

52/40/

53/41/r

48/42/I 49/27/pc 53/41/r 47/26/c 47/24/c 51/41/r 48/30/c 49/34/c 51/42/sh 58/33/sh 59/37/sh 51/18/0.00 52/21/0.00 ther(W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-sh rms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice, Tr-trace, Yesterday data as of 5 p.m. yesterday **NATIONAL WEATHER** -10s -0s 0s 10s 20s 30s 40s 50s 60s 70s 80s 90s 100s 110s NATIONAL **EXTREMES** YESTERDAY (for the 48 contiguous states) 51/30 National high: 95° 45/23 at McAllen, TX Buffalo 42/24 National low: 4° at Buena Vista, CO Precipitation: 2.83 Omaha 52/27 65/47 61/41 · 81/55

Shown are today's noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.

Cold Front

#### TRAVEL WEATHER NATIONAL Hi/Lo/Prec Hi/Lo/W Hi/Lo/W Hi/Lo/Prec Hi/Lo/W Hi/Lo/W 40/34/0.14 45/42/1.39 59/25/0.00 66/43/0.00 63/38/pc Las Vegas 65/32/r 18/4/0.00 22/1/s 18/3/s Lexington 62/41/0.09 49/28/pc 59/40/c 41/35/r 52/24/c 53/41/c 46/40/0.01 Little Rock 74/62/1.23 67/46/0.00 56/34/pc 79/66/Ti 72/43/s 70/41/9 Los Angeles 68/52/pd 72/56/pc 57/41/r 48/28/1 Louisville Madison, Wi 65/42/0.15 65/35/1 53/31/0 68/40/pc 56/42/c 57/37/pc 59/37/ 54/23/0.00 34/32/0.20 44/23/0 69/45/c 52/29/r Minneapolis 45/33/0.00 46/32/r 42/27/0 66/57/0.63 61/41/r 54/34/c New Orleans 45/16/pc New York City 49/11/0.00 43/9/0 26/12/9 Newark, NJ 46/35/Tr 49/32/1 42/28/0 Norfolk, VA Oklahoma City 50/45/0.01 59/44/0 08 57/38/0.02 59/44/0.08 61/53/2.43 36/21/Tr 39/34/0.28 62/41/0.06 41/35/0.01 88/64/0.00 73/47/0.00 41/36/0.45 Orlando Palm Springs Peoria Philadelphia 61/29/0.00 44/29/r 38/24/pc 49/38/Tr 52/37/r 44/29/1 72/45/0.00 Phoenix 85/57/s 49/45/1.62 65/33/0.00 45/23/pc 63/47/1.59 74/49/t 63/38/pc Portland, ME 47/19/0.00 49/24/r 70/54/0.14 72/46/t 54/29/r 61/43/0 47/29/0.01 64/37/0.04 62/43/T Rochester, N 53/28/ 45/25/pc 55/34/s 35/28/0.01 46/26/s Sacramento 59/36/0.00 56/46/1 St. Louis 56/47/0.84 57/31/0.00 Salt Lake City 65/47/s 74/45/s 70/45/pc 81/60/0.02 40/23/s 51/33/9 San Antonio 75/48/s 9/-11/pc 51/37/s 57/33/s 68/41/0.00 72/45/pc 9/-12/pc San Diego San Francisco 62/46/0.00 65/53/p 59/50/r 68/58/s

Fargo 4 Flagstaff Flagstaff Grand Rapids Green Bay 3 Greensboro 5 Harrisburg 4 Hartford, CT 4 Helena 5 Honolulu 7 Houston 8 Huntsville indianapolis Jackson, MS 6	15/4/Tr 43/29/Tr 50/19/0.00 56/26/0.00 38/24/0.06 58/41/Tr 48/38/0.00 48/28/0.01 59/27/0.00 78/68/0.15 80/72/0.03 65/56/1.94 62/41/0.02	9/-12/pc 50/29/pc 54/25/s 45/25/c 42/23/pc 69/48/r 51/36/r 48/28/r 63/36/s 76/68/sh 69/47/s 58/44/r	9/-11/pc 51/37/s 57/33/s 47/23/s 47/25/s 50/32/r 47/26/pc 39/21/c 59/35/c 77/69/pc 68/45/s	San Francisco San Jose Santa Fe Savannah Seattle Sioux Falls Spokane Springfield, MO Tampa Tucson	56/44/0.01 60/38/Tr 54/28/0.11 71/58/0.12 58/36/0.00 35/31/0.01 58/30/0.00 63/51/1.21 82/67/0.00	59/50/r 60/51/r 61/31/pc 82/51/t 54/43/sh 43/24/c 60/40/pc 41/29/sh 81/64/pc	61/48/pc 61/43/pc 66/34/s 69/42/pc 53/42/r 51/33/s 52/35/sh 53/27/pc
Flagstaff Grand Rapids Green Bay Greensboro Harrisburg 4 Hartford, CT 4 Helena Honolulu 7 Houston Huntsville Indianapolis Jackson, MS	50/19/0.00 56/26/0.00 38/24/0.06 58/41/Tr 48/38/0.00 48/28/0.01 59/27/0.00 78/68/0.15 80/72/0.03 65/56/1.94 62/41/0.02	54/25/s 45/25/c 42/23/pc 69/48/r 51/36/r 48/28/r 63/36/s 76/68/sh 69/47/s 58/44/r	57/33/s 47/23/s 47/25/s 50/32/r 47/26/pc 39/21/c 59/35/c 77/69/pc	Santa Fe Savannah Seattle Sioux Falls Spokane Springfield, MO Tampa	54/28/0.11 71/58/0.12 58/36/0.00 35/31/0.01 58/30/0.00 63/51/1.21	61/31/pc 82/51/t 54/43/sh 43/24/c 60/40/pc 41/29/sh	66/34/s 69/42/pc 53/42/r 51/33/s 52/35/sh 53/27/pc
Grand Rapids Green Bay Greensboro Harrisburg Hartford, CT Helena Honolulu Houston Huntsville Indianapolis Jackson, MS	56/26/0.00 38/24/0.06 58/41/Tr 48/38/0.00 48/28/0.01 59/27/0.00 78/68/0.15 80/72/0.03 65/56/1.94 62/41/0.02	45/25/c 42/23/pc 69/48/r 51/36/r 48/28/r 63/36/s 76/68/sh 69/47/s 58/44/r	47/23/s 47/25/s 50/32/r 47/26/pc 39/21/c 59/35/c 77/69/pc	Savannah Seattle Sioux Falls Spokane Springfield, MO Tampa	71/58/0.12 58/36/0.00 35/31/0.01 58/30/0.00 63/51/1.21	82/51/t 54/43/sh 43/24/c 60/40/pc 41/29/sh	69/42/pc 53/42/r 51/33/s 52/35/sh 53/27/pc
Green Bay 3 Greensboro 5 Harrisburg Hartford, CT 4 Helena 5 Honolulu 77 Houston 8 Huntsville 6 Indianapolis 6 Jackson, MS 8	38/24/0.06 58/41/Tr 48/38/0.00 48/28/0.01 59/27/0.00 78/68/0.15 80/72/0.03 65/56/1.94 62/41/0.02	42/23/pc 69/48/r 51/36/r 48/28/r 63/36/s 76/68/sh 69/47/s 58/44/r	47/25/s 50/32/r 47/26/pc 39/21/c 59/35/c 77/69/pc	Seattle Sioux Falls Spokane Springfield, MO Tampa	58/36/0.00 35/31/0.01 58/30/0.00 63/51/1.21	54/43/sh 43/24/c 60/40/pc 41/29/sh	53/42/r 51/33/s 52/35/sh 53/27/pc
Greensboro 5 Harrisburg 4 Hartford, CT 4 Helena 5 Honolulu 7 Huntsville 6 Indianapolis 6 Jackson, MS 8	58/41/Tr 48/38/0.00 48/28/0.01 59/27/0.00 78/68/0.15 80/72/0.03 65/56/1.94 62/41/0.02	69/48/r 51/36/r 48/28/r 63/36/s 76/68/sh 69/47/s 58/44/r	50/32/r 47/26/pc 39/21/c 59/35/c 77/69/pc	Sioux Falls Spokane Springfield, MO Tampa	35/31/0.01 58/30/0.00 63/51/1.21	43/24/c 60/40/pc 41/29/sh	51/33/s 52/35/sh 53/27/pc
Harrisburg 4 Hartford, CT 4 Helena 5 Honolulu 7 Huntsville 6 Indianapolis 6 Jackson, MS 8	48/38/0.00 48/28/0.01 59/27/0.00 78/68/0.15 80/72/0.03 65/56/1.94 62/41/0.02	51/36/r 48/28/r 63/36/s 76/68/sh 69/47/s 58/44/r	47/26/pc 39/21/c 59/35/c 77/69/pc	Spokane Springfield, MO Tampa	58/30/0.00 63/51/1.21	60/40/pc 41/29/sh	52/35/sh 53/27/pc
Hartford, ČT 4 Helena 5 Honolulu 7 Houston 8 Huntsville 6 ndianapolis 6 Jackson, MS 8	48/28/0.01 59/27/0.00 78/68/0.15 80/72/0.03 65/56/1.94 62/41/0.02	48/28/r 63/36/s 76/68/sh 69/47/s 58/44/r	39/21/c 59/35/c 77/69/pc	Springfield, MO Tampa	63/51/1.21	41/29/sh	53/27/pc
Helena 5 Honolulu 7 Houston 8 Huntsville 6 Indianapolis 6 Jackson, MS 8	59/27/0.00 78/68/0.15 80/72/0.03 65/56/1.94 62/41/0.02	63/36/s 76/68/sh 69/47/s 58/44/r	59/35/c 77/69/pc	Tampa			
Helena 5 Honolulu 7 Houston 8 Huntsville 6 Indianapolis 6 Jackson, MS 8	78/68/0.15 80/72/0.03 65/56/1.94 62/41/0.02	76/68/sh 69/47/s 58/44/r	77/69/pc	Tampa	82/67/0.00	91/64/pc	
Houston 8 Huntsville 6 Indianapolis 6 Jackson, MS 8	80/72/0.03 65/56/1.94 62/41/0.02	69/47/s 58/44/r		Tuccon		01/04/DC	71/56/s
Huntsville Indianapolis Jackson, MS	65/56/1.94 62/41/0.02	58/44/r	68/45/s	1005011	73/35/0.00	82/50/pc	84/53/s
Indianapolis Jackson, MS	62/41/0.02			Tulsa	66/46/0.47	52/35/pc	59/34/s
Jackson, MS 8		40/00/-	51/39/c	Washington, DC	50/41/Tr	59/43/r	48/31/r
Jackson, MS 8		49/28/r	48/27/s	Wichita	44/44/1.77	52/30/pc	57/32/s
	84/66/1.38	59/43/pc	54/39/c	Yakima	59/26/0.00	62/34/sh	57/32/pc
Jacksonville 8	83/62/0.00	84/51/t	70/49/s	Yuma	76/46/0.00	81/52/s	85/58/s
			INTERNA	TIONAL			
	45/39/0.61	47/34/sh	47/30/pc	Mecca	97/71/0.00	99/68/s	97/69/s
Athens	61/43/0.00	61/51/pc	64/53/sh	Mexico City	81/55/0.00	72/47/sh	74/47/c
Auckland	70/58/0.07	73/54/pc	72/53/pc	Montreal	45/23/0.00	43/16/c	32/22/s
Baghdad	84/64/0.00	76/53/s	75/53/s	Moscow	35/31/0.12	37/29/c	35/22/pc
Bangkok !	95/81/0.00	97/81/t	98/81/s	Nairobi	80/63/0.00	82/59/pc	82/60/pc
Beijing !	55/44/0.00	53/36/pc	56/41/pc	Nassau	81/68/0.01	82/70/s	83/69/s
Beirut (	68/57/0.50	65/57/pc	66/56/pc	New Delhi	91/64/0.00	91/67/pc	92/67/pc
Berlin 4	42/31/0.07	43/28/c	40/23/pc	Osaka	61/48/0.00	66/41/s	68/42/c
Bogota (	66/48/0.04	64/48/r	65/51/sh	Oslo	39/19/0.00	42/27/pc	34/24/pc
Budapest	48/30/0.19	46/27/c	47/29/c	Ottawa	46/21/0.00	40/14/pc	33/20/s
	70/66/0.02	67/61/s	72/66/s	Paris	50/43/0.12	46/39/sh	47/33/pc
	77/57/0.00	78/58/s	80/58/s	Rio de Janeiro	86/73/0.00	88/76/pc	85/75/s
Cairo	77/56/0.00	73/56/s	75/60/s	Rome	53/34/0.23	56/37/c	54/41/r
	55/23/0.00	57/36/s	56/29/pc	Santiago	77/55/0.00	72/50/s	69/47/pc
	86/79/0.00	86/73/pc	81/71/t	Sao Paulo	86/68/0.12	81/68/t	80/67/t
	55/37/0.00	55/43/pc	52/40/pc	Sapporo	41/36/0.34	37/31/c	38/26/pc
	58/41/0.00	59/41/c	53/43/pc	Seoul	61/30/0.00	64/42/s	67/45/pc
	45/34/0.12	45/31/c	46/30/c	Shanghai	53/49/0.04	60/53/r	57/53/r
	78/60/0.00	78/59/s	78/60/pc	Singapore	88/79/0.01	90/77/t	89/77/c
	84/72/0.00	81/71/pc	81/71/s	Stockholm	36/28/0.01	37/23/sf	32/22/pc
	48/43/0.11	49/42/pc	51/41/sh	Sydney	74/60/0.24	70/68/r	72/69/sh
	62/44/0.00	58/44/pc	60/45/s	Taipei City	66/64/0.01	86/69/pc	84/67/pc
	70/59/0.09	76/58/t	80/60/c	Tel Aviv	69/51/0.05	68/54/pc	68/57/s
	79/65/0.00	79/71/pc	80/71/pc	Tokyo	65/54/0.00	62/51/s	62/51/pc
	72/54/0.00	67/47/s	65/49/pc	Toronto	48/34/0.00	45/23/c	41/26/s
	50/41/0.03	50/44/c	51/34/pc	Vancouver	48/34/0.00	52/44/r	51/42/sh
	68/44/0.00	58/33/pc	56/34/c	Vienna	46/36/0.00	43/27/c	43/28/c
	95/81/0.01	94/79/pc	94/79/t	Warsaw	40/30/0.00	43/21/C 40/24/sf	38/24/pc
viaiiid	JJ/01/U.UI	54/19/PC	34/13/L	vvalbavv	40/30/0.01	40/24/81	30/24/PC

# **FFA**

Sun Valley, ID

### **Continued from A11**

While online meetings can be tedious, both Adams and Wallace said they were able to connect with more students than ever before.

"It was tough, to say the least," Adams said. "Every day for three months, we got up was 100% the students who made me feel like it was worth

Wallace said the team was able to hone a new skill set that will only become more valuable in the future.

"I feel like we've just added a whole bunch more tools to our tool belt this year," she said.

# **Jobless**

### **Continued from A11**

The \$1.9 trillion coronavirus relief bill President Ioe Biden signed last week extended temporary programs Congress established in March 2020 at the pandemic's outset. Gerstenfeld said those extensions require time to implement on the department's obsolete computer system, so people who didn't have benefits remaining before the program will have to wait an indefinite period for the computers to be updated be-

fore getting their money. Oregon is in the process of replacing its computers, which date to the 1990s. That project has been stalled several times of the past 12 years, but Gerstenfeld said the department is within a "couple of weeks" of finalizing contract language with a vendor chosen last year to do the work.

The state hopes the project, which could cost \$123 million, will be complete in 2025.

In the meantime, thousands of Oregonians are still working to resolve outstanding claims. The department's phone lines remain jammed with calls from people seeking information about the complex system of jobless benefits. Instead of calling, the department recommends trying its online "Contact Us " form with questions about pending claims.



Carlos Osorio/AP

Edgar Bolivar describes the purpose of wearable robots at the Ford Motor Co. Robotics Building Friday.

# **Robotics**

**Continued from A11** Ford and other automakers are investing billions of dollars in autonomous vehicles, and robotics is expected to play a major role in their development. Ford announced in February that it was boosting its autonomous vehicle investment to \$7 billion, from sensing systems to specific research into applications such as Digit, a spokesman said.

In November, Ford revealed plans to transform a long-vacant Detroit book warehouse into a hub for automobile innovation. Another neighborhood in

the city is the site of Ford's planned \$740 million project to create a place where new transportation and mobility ideas are nurtured and developed.

Warm Front

People one day may see a robot similar to Digit emerge from a driverless vehicle, stroll across their lawn and leave a package at the door,

according to Washington.
"This is an exciting proposition, especially in this post-COVID era where the promise of doing shopping online has become just sort of the norm," he said. "As you think about a future where package delivery is going to be part of daily life, this is a real opportunity for us to pair a robot with an autonomous vehicle to help solve the problem of package delivery at scale."

"It's not here today, but you can be pretty certain that it's coming in the not-too-distant future," Washington said.

Researchers working together in the building are designing robots for people, said Alec Gallimore, dean of Engineering at the University of Michigan.

"Robots aren't people and people aren't robots, but we think — together — there can be synergy," Gallimore said. "So, we're designing robots that are going to help you. First responders for example. Can we put robots in harm's way so we don't have to have people there?"

# **Gates**

### **Continued from A11**

"Ultimately, it's billions of dollars from the government that will pull that through and purchase it for Americans and people in low-income countries," she said.

"It's always up to govphilanthropy or private sector and civil society can always help lead the way."

Though her foundation has donated billions toward reforms for education and the environment, Gates said government has the power to make permanent change. She said she found discussing those issues with the Trump administration "incredibly frustrating," but appreciates the shift in policy from the Biden administration.

Gates

"I am very happy to see a new administration who's not only taking the threat (of climate change) seriously, but also taking very bold and concrete actions," she said. "That's what we should expect as Americans."

Gates also said she hopes that the Biden administration will establish an innovation fund dedicated to child care.

'We have a caregiving crisis and yet there are great ideas out there," she said. "Those kinds of ideas need to be funded and come forward so that we can come up with new innovations in society when it comes to women and how much they've backslid in the pandemic."

Gates also noted the pandemic has shown how import-

ant it is to fight misinformation.

"It's incredibly disheartening because honestly it causes death," she said. ple not doing the right thing, not getting their mom or their elderly father

vaccinated, we will lose more people. We are losing more people."

The Bloomberg Equality Summit, an annual gathering dedicated to discussing ways to create a more just business climate, also included discussions with Queen Rania Al Abdullah of Jordan and Al Kelly, Visa chairman and CEO.

Facebook Chief Operat-ing Officer Sheryl Sandberg announced at the summit Wednesday that the company established a new domestic violence policy. Facebook will now offer family members of domestic violence victims up to 20 days of paid leave.

"A third of women will experience violence or sexual assault in their lives," Sandberg said. "It's a horrific number and that's before coronavirus where we know that domestic violence is spiking. ... I think people really don't understand how universal this is."

# Rent

# **Continued from A11**

Business owners and Portland city leaders urged Oregon lawmakers Tuesday to support a proposal that would give commercial tenants until the end of September to repay rent bills they accumulated during the worst days of the coronavirus recession last year.

Rep. Rob Nosse, D-Portland, is floating the proposal as an amendment to a bill that would prohibit evictions of commercial tenants whose outstanding rent does not exceed their security deposits.

"This will be a big help for us and many business owners who are trying to get back on their feet," Hatanaka told lawmakers during Tuesday's public

The looming deadline for business owners to repay outstanding rent comes just as the state is getting its \$100 million commercial rent relief program off the ground. Advocates say the state shouldn't put business owners in a position to be evicted just as they are about to get money to repay their late

Business Oregon, which is administering the commercial

rent relief program, received 1,889 applications requesting nearly \$49 million in funding from landlords on behalf of commercial tenants in the first week since applications opened. Applications for the first round

of funding close March 22. The agency plans to distribute \$50 million during the first round of funding, with landlords receiving grants of up to \$100,000 per business tenant for a maximum of \$3 million going to each landlord. The application process for a second round of funding will open in late April.

But even landlords approved

for the first round of funding won't start receiving grants until April — after tenants are supposed to have repaid their outstanding payments under the state's current guidelines.

It's unclear how many business owners across the state are behind on rent and could face eviction if the repayment pe-

riod isn't extended. Rep. John Lively, D-Springfield, chairs the House Committee On Economic Recovery and Prosperity. During Tuesday's hearing, he said lawmakers will look at the number of applications submitted to the commercial rent relief program

to determine whether more support is needed.

But some business owners say their landlords aren't apply-

ing for the grants.
While both landlords and tenants must participate in the application process, landlords are required to submit the initial application and the grants will be paid directly to them. The grants must bring tenants current on their rent and the state is requiring landlords who accept the funding to sign an agreement forgiving any outstanding penalties or interest and ensuring that their tenants won't be evicted.