

Governor Kate Brown,

I am writing on behalf of all independent contractor and sole proprietor hairstylists in the State of Oregon. The executive order that was released on 16 March, 2020 has left us all in a grey area. Many of us have made the extremely difficult decision to close our doors in the name of public health. Still, many of us have remained open to the public because the under 10 person gathering rule can be maintained. Salon services cannot be performed while maintaining the recommended social distancing of 3-6ft. We need you to make a clear, black and white statement, that demands salons close immediately. As self-employed persons, we will not qualify for unemployment or sick pay and if you do not clearly mandate that we close, we are scared that we will not qualify for any federal aid relief. A vague statement with words such as "urge" and "should" is not good enough. That is not leadership, in a time when we need leadership the most. Many stylists are single parents and when they do not work, they do not make money. Please follow Washington's lead and demand closure. For the good of the public and for the safety of hairstylists in your state. This should also be extended to gyms, tattoo shops, and massage businesses, but I can only speak for hair and nail salons.

Thank you for your service,

Karyssa Dow

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