

Tina Kotek
Speaker of the House



Peter Courtney
President of the Senate

Oregon State Legislature

March 13, 2020

Representative Paul Holvey

Senator Arnie Roblan

Co-Chairs, Interim Special Joint Committee on Coronavirus Response

RE: A Legislative Response to Reduce the Effects of the Pandemic

Dear Co-Chairs Holvey and Roblan,

You and many of your colleagues have been in regular communication with the Oregon Health Authority concerning the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Our Governor, our agencies, and our local leaders are working hard to prioritize the health, safety and economic security of all Oregonians. We all take this work very seriously and have confidence in our public health officials who are directing the response. Complying with local, state and federal guidance has and will continue to impact Oregon's economy and the financial stability of families and individuals.

The Legislature is in a unique position to aide in the COVID-19 response. A multi-branch approach to this pandemic is in the public interest. We ask that you and your colleagues work over the next several weeks to:

1. Identify actions that will support economic relief and household stability for low-income workers and small businesses who are at risk of being significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic;
2. Produce budget and policy recommendations for legislative action in a timely manner; and
3. Monitor Oregon's ongoing public health response and make recommendations for further legislative action if needed.

We ask that you work remotely when possible in accordance with the public health guidance set forth by the Governor and the Oregon Health Authority.

Thank you for your leadership,

Sincerely,

Tina Kotek, Speaker of the House

Peter Courtney, President of the Senate