March 17, 2020

To: Special Joint Committee on Coronavirus Response Re: The COVID Crisis in Oregon

Dear House Speaker Tina Kotek and Senate President Peter Courtney,

We are writing today to seek temporary relief measures that will aid our business during this public health crisis.

We respectfully request the following:

## **Support for Affected Workers**

- No waiting for unemployment benefits; waive the one-week waiting period to ensure workers can receive benefits as soon as possible.
- Enhanced eligibility for unemployment; workers may be eligible to receive unemployment benefits if an employer needs to temporarily slow or cease operations due to COVID-19, or if employees are unable to work due to an employer- or physician-mandated quarantine related to the virus.

## **Support for Impacted Employers**

- Employers who do slow or cease operations will not be financially penalized for an increase in workers requesting unemployment benefits.
- Authorization of rapid response funding, through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, for employers eligible to remain open during this emergency.

We need immediate action to infuse financial resources into our community. We ask that you take action now.

With Urgency,

Sean Sullivan President / CEO Stumptown Coffee Roasters

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