

Hello Representatives,

I am writing in response to a social media post by Rep. Bynum this morning. I recognize your meeting on assistance started at 10am, so I hope that it isn't too late for this information to be included.

I run a nonprofit called SCRAP Creative Reuse, with our main center located near downtown Portland. Our nonprofit provides affordable creative materials to the community and environmental education programs, all while keeping things out of the waste stream.

We are being impacted greatly by all of the decisions by local governments at this time and are doing everything in our power to avoid layoffs. We just reduced staff hours this morning and are going to try to pay staff for as long as we can. Our staff care about our work and many of them are already part of marginalized communities and losing their jobs at this time would be beyond devastating. Folks who work at nonprofit do the work because they care about it and make personal sacrifices to do work that benefits our community.

We are asking that the State look at how nonprofits can be supported at this time. There has been a lot of talk about supporting bars at this time, but I ask that you all also consider how nonprofit employees are affected by the crisis that we are facing.

Thank you for your consideration,
Liz Start

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Elizabeth C. Start

Executive Director

SCRAP Creative Reuse

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scrapcreativereuse.org

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Pronouns: she, her, hers