

From: [Ginevra Ralph](#)
To: [J1SS Exhibits](#)
Subject: In support of liability protection from COVID lawsuits
Date: Monday, June 22, 2020 2:53:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

To the members of the Lane County legislative delegation:

I write on behalf of The Shedd Institute in support of limited liability protection for businesses operating under Oregon guidelines during this unprecedented health crisis.

- The Shedd is a 70,000 sq. ft. non-profit education and performing arts facility in Eugene.
- In normal times, we are open 7 days/week and we serve over 70,000 different individuals annually from all over the country through our performances, music school, and community rental and cultural event.
- Including staff, repeat visitors, out of town artists, etc. that translates to over 250,000 in-person visits to the building.

We are diligently following all guidelines as we work to understand how to reopen the different parts of our business, most of which are designed to encourage community gathering.

With even 25% of our annual load it would be unfeasible for us to take on responsibility for undocumented assertions that someone contracted COVID19 by virtue of coming to our building, unless they could prove willful negligence.

It is challenging as it is to understand how to actually resume operations in ways that protect both staff and patrons while not putting the company at risk of expensive, frivolous and unsubstantiated lawsuits.

Please consider making liability protection legislation a priority for the special session.
With appreciation,

Ginevra Ralph,

Director of Education

The John G. Shedd Institute for the Arts

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"The John G. Shedd Institute for the Arts is an education and performance center where people find and nurture community through discovery, creation and celebration."

Support The Shedd when you shop online!

