

My name is Robert D Ewbank and I live and vote in Eugene OR.

Just like the state's far from robust and soon to be "contact trace challenged" Covid response, the concomitant situation for the unemployed is equally inept and is part of a double jeopardy of life and living situation that the pandemic has caused, and the government here has now fumbled... not as bad as the national situation, though it has fumbled a truly great chance to provide relief from the virus as well as the immediate impoverishment it has caused.

With all the time and resources you have been given, there is no excuse by now, five plus months later, for not having a basic expedited navigational help available by phone, not having a clear ability to track cases, and offering no (zero) ideas when people will have their money, if at all.

You have made the problems people experience measurably worse and done it in an opaque and non credible manner that should be held accountable electorally. And I voted Democrat so I can imagine the expletives finding their way into the Republican dialogue here.

You have blown a chance to be heroes and instead have become the ineffectual goats that have taken the lives of thousands of people down with your sitting on your hands this whole time.

Shame on you for not doing this seriously enough given the FIVE+ months you have had to act, train, hire, and post information on your web page and post to those affected via digital communications.

FIVE+ MONTHS and still no one there to answer the phone. FIVE+ MONTHS and still a mass of confusing slowed processes and clueless automated correspondence that is weeks behind if relevant at all. FIVE+ MONTHS and you still are asking your state employees and department heads "Why?" -- when that question needed to be answered with decisive and swift action in May and June at the latest.

How many state employees would stay around if you told them their extended paycheck benefits would be 3-4 months late if at all, and if no one answered the phones at the ONLY place they could find out what happened?

Get off the dime! NOW. You are proving that your government does not work at the worst possible time to be inept at the task of managing the government. At the worst possible time to look no more competent than Trump.

You are great at collecting money and highly efficient as spending it on programs you choose and occasionally jack up without justification, though apparently not very good at distributing it to those that really need it desperately.

Your employees still get paid, their pensions still get funded, though their lack of performance and lack of flexing out has punished thousands for whom the money was meant to help. Learn to do this, and keep firing people that give you more excuses. Whoever underestimated and underresourced this effort in these horrific times needs be fired too.

This situation is not forgivable any longer, it is I-N-E-X-C-U-S-A-B-L-E and should be a complete embarrassment, like Rocky Thompson and the ObamaCare website debacle.

"Finger pointing" as Peter Courtney avers being 'not necessary' should be exactly what is done and with this, the people being pointed out need to visibly and transparently MOVE and ACT as if people's lives depended on it.

You have hundreds of millions of dollars that you are just sitting on doing little to relieve the pain and crisis. Get creative, agile, and get off your butts, and stop making the same months old excuses, there simply is NO excuse for not having hired enough staff to at least answer a blanking phone call after all this time!

Not putting insurmountable pressure on the national government for more pandemic unemployment relief and other funds and backfill is also I-N-E-X-C-U-S-A-B-L-E. The crisis is real!

Thank you.