



June 25, 2020

President Courtney and Speaker Kotek
Co-Chairs of the Joint Committee on the First Special Session of 2020

Co-Chairs and Members of the Committee,

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues across the state it threatens not only the health of Oregonians, but the Oregon economy. Many business owners are afraid to reopen their business for concerns of liability lawsuits. As insurance agents, IIABO members hear from these entities about that concern and the threat they are facing from COVID-19 lawsuits.

IIABO supports HB 4212-31 amendment that would provide temporary and targeted liability protections to entities that are following state and federal public health guidelines and rules to reduce the risk of COVID-19 exposure.

Our Clients need the liability relief contained in the -31 amendment so that businesses can bring employees and customers back and Oregon's economy can get back on course. This amendment would provide that temporary and targeted liability protections to entities that are following state and federal public health guidelines and rules to reduce the risk of COVID-19 exposure. It would give those following the guidelines and complying with orders some protection for doing so.

Please adopt the -31 amendment which is supported by businesses, school boards, local governments and other entities like nonprofits. This is important to all of us.

Thank you,

Roger Beyer, Lobbyist
Independent Insurance Agents and Brokers of Oregon