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June 25, 2020

Re: House Bill 4212 – Amend to include liability protections for COVID-19 claims
To: Joint Committee on the First Special Session
From: Van's Nursery, Inc.

To Co-Chairs Kotek and Courtney,

My name is Robert van Klaveren and I own Van's Nursery, Inc. I support an amendment to HB 4212 that would provide temporary and targeted liability protections to entities that are adhering to state and federal public health guidelines and rules to reduce the risk of COVID-19 exposure.

Governor Brown's executive orders have flattened the COVID-19 curve, but the changing regulatory environment also has created immense liability and uncertainty for public and private sector employers.

I am worried that even though we are following state and federal public health guidelines, we are still at risk of a lawsuit from a customer or employee stating that we didn't go far enough. One of these lawsuits would cripple my business. It's already tough to keep my doors open in these challenging economic times.

Please include the COVID-19 liability protections in HB 4212.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert van Klaveren".

Robert van Klaveren, owner and president of Van's Nursery, Inc.