

June 25, 2020

To Co-Chairs Kotek and Courtney,

I write as an Oregon native and owner of Income Property Management Co., an Oregon business now in its 46th year based in Portland. My firm manages affordable and market-rate housing as well as commercial property in Portland and along the I-5 corridor. I urge you to support an amendment to HB 4212 that would provide temporary, targeted and much needed liability protection to businesses who, in good faith, follow state and federal guidelines related to the COVID-19 virus.

We are in a period of unprecedented economic dislocation and political upheaval. Many businesses are still closed or operating at dramatically reduced levels. Some are facing unanticipated costs related to the virus. The risk of lawsuits brought against businesses who are following reasonable guidelines to address the COVID-19 crisis is real and potentially very costly. Some businesses cannot afford to open in the face of the threat of such lawsuits and some will not open, until this threat is ameliorated.

Given the range of challenges faced by Oregon's businesses now, and the very real possibility of an additional "wave" of virus related threats in the coming months, providing business owners fair and reasonable liability protection is necessary, prudent and appropriate. I urge your support of this important amendment.

Respectfully,

Jeff A. Reingold
President
Income Property Management Co.