

February 18, 2021

Dear Chair Manning and members of the committee,

Please support businesses by passing SB 531.

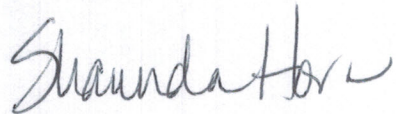
Due to COVID-19, Governor Brown issued Executive Order 20-12 and closed a mass number of local businesses. We know this was initially necessary to reduce the spread of the virus, but the extent of the closures has been very detrimental to Oregon.

Many of our small and medium businesses in our local communities have been punished greatly while many large corporations are able to continue to operate as either "essential businesses" or because they are large enough to staff the numerous regulations placed upon business during this time. Now there will be additional consequences as payroll taxes are increased and Federal Stimulus payments will be reducing tax credits for those businesses that have pass-through income. This has also been exacerbated by the September fires and February ice storm.

Because businesses are closed due to public health emergencies, it is important that our State regulators help those businesses recover. These businesses are a vital part of our community, and their closure has caused many communities to suffer with job losses, loss of tax revenue, loss of connectivity and everything that has been a consequence of not being able to serve clients or customers in person for almost one year.

Please stand up for businesses in Oregon and support SB 531.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shawnda Horn".

Shawnda Horn

Double J Construction Inc