

February 25, 2021

Dear House Committee Members and Captive Audience,

I am a small-business owner of Eastern Oregon. Not a restaurant. Not a fitness gym, nor a salon. Rather my husband and I own a business that has happened to prosper during COVID. (And, we don't even hate Western Oregon as may often be the assumption.) But I am writing because of the greater good that's been neglected. And the complete lack of reasonable thought that has been demonstrated. Union and Baker Counties were held at a quarantine level for months due to a faulty reporting of 3, THREE, cases of COVID. Whether they were faulty or not, THREE reported cases are not enough to mess with hundreds or thousands of peoples' lives. The fact that they were reported erroneously by the OHA makes the whole scenario even more heinous. What does this have to do with limiting the Governor's capacities?

As a business owner, a boss, a parent, a human being, I'm responsible to see through the last effects of anything that I put into play. Especially the things that mess with or would even have devastating effects on people's lives. So should the governor! If the state is going to regulate at such a level they had better cross their T's and dot their I's before they go devastating the livelihoods and homes of thousands of people. This has been the biggest disgrace and display of irresponsibility to the point where many are calling the root of it nothing short of evil. If this accusation is incorrect, somebody had better be accountable for their actions. If you're going to convict someone of murder and put them in jail, you'd better be right about the conviction. If you're going to condone your children, they had better be deserving of the brow beating. Leadership should be, as my husband and I know, held to higher standards and judged more harshly. There is good reason for this. If the Governor doesn't want to hear about it, then do the job! Have accountability! Don't destroy people's lives and think there will be no recourse.

I do believe that most anger is a sin but there are rare occasions where there is righteous anger and many are feeling that lately. Though it would be a long and arduous road to recover from this economic gut punch, one right step would be to limit the Governor's reach in shutting these establishments down. These mandates have been handled flippantly or deviously. Either way, give the authority back to the people! It is time. A rising tide lifts all boats. And whether anyone likes to believe it or not we're all on the same pond. And those that live by the sword will die by the sword. Do what's right!

Sincerely,

A lifetime Oregonian, lover of this state, working class entrepreneur, taxpayer, sympathizer to those less fortunate, and a fan of character, integrity, and accountability