

Hello Members of the Joint Committee of the First Special Session of 2020:

Thank you for your public service during the COVID-19 Pandemic. This is a difficult time for all of us, and your commitment to the democratic process is not overlooked.

This committee currently has a bill before it (HB 4212), which can help ensure government transparency during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Specifically, Section 4 states: "**If a public body posts notices of governing body public meetings on the public body's website, the public body shall also send notices of these public meetings by electronic mail to persons who have requested the notice.**"

The above language will help ensure that Oregonians are informed about meetings of governing bodies and the decisions that will be made at the meetings during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

However, Amendment #23 appears to be striking this language from the text of the proposed bill. The Amendment states "**On page 2 of the printed bill, delete lines 21 through 24.**" Thus, the amendment will not provide for interested members of the general public to be notified of public meetings during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Please consider keeping the language in Section 4 of HB 4212 unchanged, and advocate for the passage of the bill.

Ben Vidic
17723 NW Pioneer RD
Beaverton, OR 97006