



February 22, 2021

Dear House Committee Members,

I'm writing today to SUPPORT HB 3177 and to share some information regarding the IMPACT of the mandated shutdown of fitness facilities in Oregon. Our athletic clubs are located in Clackamas County and have been serving their respective communities for 44 years (Milwaukie location) and 34 years (Clackamas location). We have a combined 50,000 square feet of fitness and wellness space including physical therapy clinics, massage services, swimming pools, child care facilities and much more. We are award recipients such as "Best Athletic Club for Families" (Parent Magazine) and "Business of the Year" (North Clackamas Chamber of Commerce).

East Side Athletic Clubs have been CLOSED for five of the most recent ten and a half months. After 40 plus years under our belts one would never have anticipated a forced / mandated shutdown and it's obvious impact such as the laying off of all 96 employees and the devastation to our rainy day savings funds. Being sound operators means paying our property taxes, volunteering our time in the community and SERVICING more than 4,000 valued members. The inability to do our jobs and to serve the customers, who want and NEED our programming and facilities, has been debilitating for all involved.

Our gross revenue for 2020 was down 46% over revenue generated in 2019. During both of the 2 ½ month closure periods our expenses continued such as property taxes, insurance, utilities, licenses, rent and much much more! When allowed to operate (between the two mandated closures) our two facilities served 56,953 club daily check-ins and experiences not one single Covid case...not one! The two closure periods were unjustified and unfair! The government has basically taken away our livelihood and degraded the value of our business in the eyes of the public. Health and wellness (proactivity!) should be rewarded not punished.

We are uncertain as to what the future holds; our business and our industry has suffered a tremendous blow generated by the decisions of our State government. The health of our members has deteriorated and our financial outlook is grim.

We look to our leaders for support and an avenue for recovery!

In Health,

Terri Gilreath
Owner/Vice President
East Side Athletic Clubs

