Sample Letter to Legislator

Dear Legislator:

I am writing you today on a topic that is critically important to the success of businesses like mine in Oregon – funding for Oregon's court system.

An efficient court system provides certainty, reliability, and security for Oregon businesses. When a business needs to enforce a contract, pursue an eviction, or perhaps defend its business practices, there must be a court system in place that can effectively, and in a timely manner, deal with these disputes.

Without such a court system, it is impossible for businesses like mine to plan for future job growth and expansion. Instead we are left to wonder when – or perhaps if – a court will decide to enforce a contract, issue an eviction order, or sign a judgment protecting my business from predatory business practices.

I understand there are many worthy projects you are being asked to fund this session. However, Oregon's court system – like the Legislature or the Governor – is one of the three fundamental core functions of government. The courts are a coequal branch of government and need to be funded as such.

Without adequate funding, businesses experience remarkable delays in the processing of cases – not because those working in the Oregon judicial department aren't doing their jobs – but because we are asking the courts to perform the same amount of work with greatly reduced resources.

As you make the tough choices during the 2019 session, I ask that you remember that one of the core functions of government – Oregon's court system – must be adequately funded.

An adequately funded court system provides reliability, predictability and security to Oregon's economy, which, in turn, makes it easier for private enterprise in Oregon to create jobs and build capital.

Thank you for your consideration. If you would like to speak with me further on this issue, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,