



Idaho State Senate

BRENT HILL
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

July 6, 2020

Senator Todd Lakey
12905 Venezia Court
Nampa, ID 83651

Dear Senator Lakey:

Due to the unprecedented circumstances created by the COVID-19 pandemic, challenges have emerged regarding a number of public policies. It is evident that our existing statutes never anticipated a crisis of this type and magnitude. To address these challenges, Speaker Bedke and I are establishing a number of interim working groups to study our existing policies, seek public input, and determine whether statutory changes or additions should be considered by the Legislature in the future. Each working group should prepare a report for the 2021 Legislature that will include proposed legislative options for the Legislature to evaluate and possibly recommendations from the working group.

It is my pleasure to appoint you, as the chair of the Senate Judiciary and Rules Committee, as co-chair of the "Judiciary Working Group" that will consist of the members of the germane Senate Judiciary and Rules Committee and the House Judiciary, Rules and Administration Committee. The working group will meet as needed to complete its assignment. Meetings may be held in person or remotely, at the co-chairs' discretion. If in-person meetings are held, arrangements need to be made for working group members to participate and vote remotely. All working group members may vote on actions proposed by the working group, but any motions must be passed by a majority of the Senate Judiciary and Rules Committee as well as a majority of the House Judiciary, Rules and Administration Committee.

The major issue to be considered by the working group deals with protecting entities against legal liability due to consequences of a pandemic or other healthcare crisis. The working group should consider the health and safety of the public, the effect on the ability of the entities to provide goods and services to the public, and the economic consequences of any statutory changes. The working group should also evaluate whether a Special Session of the Legislature is needed to consider the working group's recommendations.

The following matters should be included in the working group's conclusions:

- The criteria under which liability should be limited.
- The extent of the liability protection.
- The entities that should qualify for limited liability, such as businesses, private and public schools and universities, and local governmental units.

Thank you for your willingness to dedicate your time and abilities to making this working group a success. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. I am always happy to visit with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brent Hill", written over the printed name.

Brent Hill

cc: Speaker Scott Bedke
Legislative Services Office
Senator Abby Lee
Senator Patti Anne Lodge
Senator Kelly Anthon
Senator Steven Thayn
Senator Scott Grow
Senator Don Cheatham
Senator Grant Burgoyne
Senator Mark Nye
Senate Majority and Minority Leaders