My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_. I am a Main Street Manager in your district. Due to the upsurge in coronavirus cases, many restaurants in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and around the state are going to once again be restricted to takeout as of this upcoming Wednesday, November 18. \_\_\_\_\_\_ restaurants are barely starting to recover from the last mandated closures. As you may know, most restaurants have a very narrow profit margin on food but make it up in alcoholic drink sales. These businesses are essential to the vibrancy of local shopping and cultural districts throughout Oregon. If these restaurants do not survive, Downtown \_\_\_\_\_\_\_’s economic vitality will be devastated, ultimately making it much more difficult for retailers, personal service providers, and local property owners to survive the ongoing pandemic.

We urgently need the Governor to call a special session in November to take up the issue of To-Go Cocktails. The OLCC is in support of this effort but without legislative action their hands are tied. As restaurants face the long-term structural challenges, as well as both reduced occupancy and hours of operation, that have been imposed on them, these community gathering spaces are desperate for sustainable tools to help them navigate the new normal. Having To-Go Cocktails as another method for generating revenue would provide them a lifeline for survival.

Restaurants and bars account for 11% of all employment in Oregon - that is more than 154,000 people whose livelihoods are at risk. Because nearly 65% of the revenue from these businesses recirculates into the local economy there are thousands more who are depending on restaurants to keep their doors open, from delivery drivers to farmers and Oregon's craft beverage producers. This small change to Oregon statute will help us keep businesses open and bring people back to work.

Thirty other states currently offer To-Go Cocktails including Washington and California — Oregon needs to join this growing list.

This is an URGENT REQUEST. Please act immediately to change the statute and allow for To-Go Cocktails. Without your help now, there is a good chance more businesses in Hillsboro will be permanently closed by the next time the legislature convenes.

Thank you for your ongoing support for our business community,