

Storied Event, LLC
28 Park Row
Waterbury, Vermont 05676

June 1, 2020

Rep. Michael Marcotte, Chair
Rep. Jean O'Sullivan, Vice Chair
Rep. Charles Kimbell, Ranking Member
Rep. Robert Bancroft
Rep. James Carroll
Rep. Eileen Dickinson
Rep. Stephanie Jerome, Clerk
Rep. Kristi Morris
Rep. Zachariah Ralph
Rep. Tristan Toleno

Dear Members of the Vermont House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development,

I write to you as leaders of the House and your role within Appropriations Committees regarding your efforts to act swiftly to provide support for a key industry in Vermont currently failed to be recognized.

Unfortunately, the Federal Covid-19 response is not enough to sustain the resources the Vermont Tent Industry needs to survive. The Tent and Event Rental Industry in Vermont is a growing vital resource supporting economic, non-profit, and tourism throughout the State. The Tent and Event Industry also plays an added role during times of State Emergencies assisting FEMA and State Mandates by providing shelter, additional capacity for space, and serving on the front lines if needed.

As a Vermont Destination Event Company, my staff and vendor teams fully rely on the Vermont Tent and Rental Industry to provide the necessary foundations to build outdoor events. Storied Events brings in thousands of out-of-state event guests each year from May to October. The financial impact on small businesses, local towns, including State and local taxes is profound. We are just one company, in a state with many event planners and wedding companies. This does not account for festivals, non-profit or corporate events and other destination event planners from out of state bringing clients and their guests to Vermont.

As you develop COVID-19 appropriations bills, we ask that you provide significant flexible funding to Tent and Event Rental Companies in our State. We write to assure you that we are committed to remaining engaged in Vermont and with Vermont Tent and Rental Companies. Should the Vermont Tent and Rental Industry fail, the trickle down effect with all profit and

not for profit events, community events and the destination wedding industry will have a large impact on State revenue and small businesses, specifically within the hospitality industry which is already suffering so much during this time.

I was asked to write for the wedding industry as well, however, I feel it is vital to recognize the Tent and Rental Industry as a separate entity that supports the wedding and hospitality industry.

Sincerely,

Carrie MacMillan

Owner, Storied Events LLC