

Mr. Tedd Kapinos
Jasper & Prudence Floral and Events LLC
6 Mechanic Street
Woodstock, Vermont 05091

June 3, 2020

Vermont House of Representatives
Committee on Commerce and Economic Development
115 State Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05633

Members of the Committee:

As a member of the Vermont wedding/events community, I strongly encourage you to vote in favor of any legislation that offers financial assistance to the event rental industry in our state. Due to the fallout associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, the handful of rental companies in Vermont have lost major portions of their 2020 business and face possible bankruptcy without some form of assistance/relief.

Having access to tent, furniture, lighting and tabletop rental companies in Vermont makes a considerable difference for us as wedding industry professionals when it comes to competing with peers who come to the state bringing large event clients and the substantial dollars they spend in the Green Mountain State. Without this resource, we would no longer be competitive in the bidding process for these jobs and the potential revenue would be lost. Not only does the rental company lose... all of us associated with the job lose... event/wedding planners, caterers, florists, musicians, officiants and venues. The tax dollars disappear with these jobs.

It is critical that we support the event rental industry here in Vermont. Losing this resource could leave scores of individuals unemployed and disable those of us who rely on these companies to make our businesses competitive.

I am happy to participate in any discussions regarding this issue.

Sincerely,

Tedd Kapinos