



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

**Department of Consumer and Business Services**  
Oregon Occupational Safety & Health Division (Oregon OSHA)  
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May 19, 2021

Samantha Bayer  
Oregon Farm Bureau  
[samantha@oregonfb.org](mailto:samantha@oregonfb.org)

Dear Ms. Bayer-

Oregon OSHA received your petition for rulemaking, titled: "OFB Petition to Amend OAR 437-004-1120", dated January 4, 2021, and received in our office via email on January 4, 2021.

At the time that the petition was received, Oregon OSHA was actively working on rules related to the COVID-19 pandemic for all workplaces, which had a direct effect on the rules referenced in the petition and the Executive Order that was in place due to the pandemic. According to the petition, the request for rulemaking was in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact the temporary rules (adopted in April of 2020) and the extension of many of the temporary rules through Executive Order 20-58.

Oregon OSHA initiated the public comment process for the [petition](#) on February 3, 2021 with the comment period closing on February 24, 2021. Simultaneously, Oregon OSHA was working on rulemaking for [COVID-19 Workplace Requirements in Employer-Provided Labor Housing](#), which was formally proposed on February 26, 2021. The comments received for the petition, helped inform the discussion, and ultimately the rule proposal.

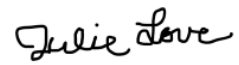
On April 30, 2021 Oregon OSHA adopted the [COVID-19 Workplace Requirements for Employer-Provided Housing](#). It is important to note, prior to the pandemic, Oregon OSHA began the rulemaking process for Employer-Provided Housing in November of 2018 and continued thru 2019. During 2020, this rulemaking was not active but has been reinvigorated as of May of 2021. This rulemaking is focused on making adjustments to the requirements with an eye to modernization.

Oregon OSHA is denying your petition for rulemaking because a rule was adopted that addressed COVID-19 in housing, and we are actively working on rules for housing that will apply outside of the COVID-19 context.

Thank you for submitting your petition, we sincerely appreciate Oregon Farm Bureau's concerns relating to COVID-19 in employer-provided housing. Working with your organization during the rulemaking process for COVID-19 has provided Oregon OSHA valuable insight into your industry.

We look forward to our continued partnership during the current employer-provided housing rulemaking. Please feel free to reach out to Oregon OSHA at any time if you wish to further discuss policy actions related to this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julie Love". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a stylized "L".

Julie Love  
Deputy Administrator, Oregon OSHA  
350 Winter St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301