

**From:** [Elena Perez](#)  
**To:** [Commission-Public-Records](#)  
**Cc:** [Elena Perez](#); [Pritchard, Aaron](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Public Comment, Puget Sound Sage: Protect Health Care for Airport Workers Impacted by COVID 19  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 1, 2020 11:20:30 AM

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Dear Port Commissioners,

Thank you for taking on the urgent tasks of responding to the health and economic impacts of COVID-19. On behalf of Puget Sound Sage, I am writing with particular concern for workers at the airport who have been laid off or lost hours due to decreased travel. These are often low-income immigrant workers and people of color who are suffering a multiplier effect as their families and communities are left reeling from the fallout of this growing health crisis.

We urge you to tie any rent relief for SeaTac corporate tenants to protections for their employees - primarily extension of healthcare benefits and right of return for workers who have been laid off. We know national food service corporations like HMS Hotel and SSP America will rebound from this crisis. It is not certain, however, that individual workers and their families will remain healthy and resilient without policy actions centered on their behalf.

We know that you as Commissioners are deeply concerned about the impacts this crisis has had on workers and their families, and urge you to respond substantively to SeaTac workers, their unions, and the hundreds of concerned residents, travelers and social justice advocates who have emailed seeking assurances that workers' interests are centered in actions taken by the Port Commission today.

Please ensure that any rent relief for national food service corporations like HMS Host and SSP American are tied to protections for their employees' healthcare and job security.

Sincerely,

**Elena Perez**

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(pronouns: she/her | [What are Pronouns?](#))

<https://www.pugetsoundsage.org>

