[State Leader|,

As an auction entrepreneur and member of the Montana Auctioneers Association, and a resident of your district, I am writing you this letter about the importance of the auction industry to the essential functions of our state and national economy.

The auction industry across the state serves individuals, farmers and ranchers, large and small businesses, non-profits, and other organizations. These entities have been contacting us to sell items to

raise much-needed funds in these challenging times. Unfortunately, for the most part, our industry is unable to serve the public due to restrictions on many businesses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Today I ask your assistance in explicitly including Montana's Auction Industry in any early efforts

to re-open businesses and rejuvenate the economy. The National Auctioneers Association (NAA) has recently released a set of progressive and rigorous guidelines, based on the current best practices as defined by national and federal agencies, for auction operations and conducting auctions. I have included the NAA best practices guidelines as an attachment with this letter. In the best practices document, you will find the most up to date methods and systems for conducting auctions in a socially distant and responsible manner.

As Auctioneers, we care deeply about the health of our community and wish to return to work only when we can safely do so. As small business owners and operators, we also know first-hand that any economic recovery will be accelerated by the power of the auction method to rapidly and safely inject liquidity and mobility into our local and state communities.

Thank you.

[Name]

[City, State]

[Phone Number, email]