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CIVIL DIVISION

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LEGAL SECRETARY

February 25, 2020

Representative Stephanie Pitcher
Senator Todd Weiler
Utah State Legislature
Capitol Building – 350 North State
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

Re: HB 206/Bail and Pretrial Release Amendments

Dear Representative Pitcher and Senator Weiler:

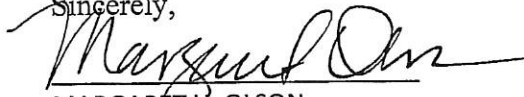
We endorse HB 206


A mission of the Summit County Attorney's Office is to ensure equal access to justice. We firmly believe that process and outcomes in criminal cases should not be different for people of means and connection than for people struggling in poverty or disenfranchisement. We affirm our commitment in seeking justice to be mindful of equal access principles.

HB 206 shifts the focus from the ability of the criminally accused to post money bail to the more appropriate focus on whether pretrial release will jeopardize public safety or whether a defendant will appear and defend the charge in a court of law.

We believe HB 206 is a positive step in the right direction.

Sincerely,


MARGARET H. OLSON
Summit County Attorney


PATRICIA S. CASSELL
Chief Prosecutor

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