

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

July 24, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nydia Velázquez
Chair
House Small Business Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Steve Chabot
Ranking Member
House Small Business Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McCarthy, Chairwoman Velázquez, and Ranking Member Chabot:

The economic consequences of the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has left small businesses across the nation in need of assistance to ensure their continued survival. The Small Business Administration's (SBA) disaster relief programs, such as the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and the Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL), have been a critical lifeline to help businesses stay afloat. As our understanding of this pandemic and its impact on our country continues to evolve, so too must our government's adaptation of assistance to our small businesses in need; whether it be in the form of an additional loan or renewed PPP eligibility.

Congress created the PPP on March 27, 2020, to provide our nation's economic engine – American small businesses – with the support they needed to survive the unique pressures COVID-19 placed on already slim margins as states were just beginning to issue quarantine and stay at home orders. Over the course of the previous four months, Congress has improved and expanded many aspects of the PPP to deliver maximum relief in response to on-the-ground realities, from extending the application window to lowering the thresholds to qualify for loan forgiveness.

In order to continue to help meet the evolving needs of America's small businesses, we urge you to include language in the next federal aid package to allow those businesses that have already received PPP funding to be eligible for additional aid, whether that is a second PPP loan or otherwise. We understand and agree that the priority for the remaining PPP appropriated funding should rightfully go towards small businesses – particularly minority, women-owned, rural, and veteran-owned – that have yet to receive their first round of PPP funds. However, the reality is there are many small businesses that will not survive without another round of federal assistance. We have heard from many small businesses in our districts that have either nearly or entirely

exhausted their initial PPP dollars, believing they had enough capital to weather the first few months of the pandemic only to find themselves in this new reality with no end of the pandemic in sight.

It is our belief the country's future economic health depends upon as many innovators on Main Street and the nearly 60 million Americans they employ emerging from this pandemic. As our country heads into continued months of uncertainty, and as states reopen and then quickly reclose due to increased spikes of new coronavirus cases, it is imperative that federal assistance for small businesses adapt just the same.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request. We look forward to continuing to work together to ensure small businesses, cornerstones of our nation, survive and thrive as our nation starts to rebuild.

Sincerely,



Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr.
Member of Congress



Troy Balderson
Member of Congress

Members Signing

/s/ Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress

/s/ David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress

/s/ Jim Costa
Member of Congress

/s/ Angie Craig
Member of Congress

/s/ Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress

/s/ Ted Deutch
Member of Congress

/s/ Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress

/s/ Jim Hagedorn
Member of Congress

/s/ Harley Rouda
Member of Congress

/s/ Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress

/s/ Mikie Sherrill
Member of Congress