



April 17, 2020

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The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Majority Leader
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Senator Charles Schumer
Senate Democratic Leader
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Majority Leader McConnell and Democratic Leader Schumer:

I am writing on behalf of the Small Business Legislative Council (SBLC) regarding the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program. We strongly support, and sincerely appreciate, Congress' efforts to provide critical capital to help America's small businesses and their employees weather this unprecedented crisis.

We have already seen real world examples of these programs helping businesses keep their employees on payroll and avoid defaulting on their debt obligations. However, on the other hand, we have also had reports from a significant number of small businesses that have struggled to access these loans – from locating a lending institution that will accept their application to navigating the application process itself. Additionally, the SBA has imposed limits to EIDL loan funding that are significantly below what was provided by statute – rendering the loans insufficient to provide meaningful help to the vast majority of small businesses. Finally, our members, most of which are 501(c)(6) organizations, have themselves been excluded from accessing the PPP funding, which is causing them hardship

The funds appropriated for the PPP and EIDL programs are already exhausted. In the face of this, we urge Congress to take swift action to secure the vision and intent of the PPP and EIDL by authorizing additional funding for these programs and to expand PPP eligibility to 501(c)(6) organizations.

America's small businesses and the groups that support them will play a critical role in stabilizing and rebuilding our economy when we emerge from this crisis. However, they can only do so if they have the resources to survive the next weeks and months.

We thank you for your consideration of this matter and stand ready to provide any additional information or assistance that you or your staff may require.

Sincerely,

Paula Calimafde
President and General Counsel



AICC – The Independent Packaging Association

AmericanHort

American Moving and Storage Association

American Pet Products Association

American Road & Transportation Builders Association

American Subcontractors Association

America's Small Business Development Centers

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Pet Industry Distributors Association

Petroleum Equipment Institute



Petroleum Marketers Association of America

Power-Motion Technology Representatives Association

Promotional Products Association International

Saturation Mailers Coalition

Secondary Materials and Recycled Textile Association

Small Business Council of America, Inc.

Society of American Florists

Specialty Equipment Market Association

Specialty Tools & Fasteners Distributors Association

Textile Care Allied Trades Association

Tire Industry Association

Transportation Intermediaries Association

United Veterinary Services Association

Washington Area New Automobile Dealers Association