

# Congress of the United States

## Washington, DC 20510

December 17, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Senate Majority Leader  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
House Minority Leader  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Minority Leader  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader Schumer, Leader McCarthy, and Leader McConnell:

As Congress works to address the major challenges facing our nation, we ask that protecting the economic health and wellbeing of America's small businesses – especially those disproportionately impacted by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic – remains a top priority.

While the U.S. economy continues to grow, the recovery has been uneven, and the negative effects of the rapid spread of new COVID-19 variants disproportionately impact businesses which rely upon in-person gathering to survive, including the restaurant, hospitality, fitness, live events, and travel industries. Especially as we head into the winter months, tens of thousands of small businesses across the country are faced with the possibility of layoffs, reduced service or hours, or outright closure, barring additional federal relief.

Congress has risen to the challenge before, standing up targeted relief programs such as the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), the Restaurant Revitalization Fund (RRF), and the Shuttered Venue Operator Grant (SVOG) program. Together, these programs helped keep millions of Americans on payrolls, prevented countless small businesses from closing, and helped power an economic recovery much more robust than most would have predicted.

Unfortunately, not all small businesses in need were able to access these programs. Others did not receive much-needed financial assistance because the funds simply ran out. Instead of lifting all boats, we've only lifted some, leaving scores of small business owners out in the cold through no fault of their own. Many of these small business owners have taken on extraordinary debt while they wait for much-needed federal assistance. We must help them before it is too late.

We the undersigned call on House and Senate leadership to expedite a targeted relief package that funds all previously eligible requests through the RRF and allows small businesses in the fitness, live events, and travel industries to request much-needed federal assistance. These

small businesses are critical to the cultural and economic vitality of our communities, and they need our help.

We thank you for your commitment to passing a targeted small-business relief package and we stand ready to work with you to ensure that it reaches those businesses with the greatest demonstrated need. For far too many, time is running out – but the window of opportunity remains open. Let’s work together to get it done.

Sincerely,

Dean Phillips  
Member of Congress

Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress

Brian Fitzpatrick  
Member of Congress

Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress

Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez  
Member of Congress

Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress

Nikema Williams  
Member of Congress

Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress

Josh Gottheimer  
Member of Congress

Mikie Sherrill  
Member of Congress

Anthony Gonzalez  
Member of Congress

Lou Correa  
Member of Congress

Angie Craig  
Member of Congress

Jimmy Panetta  
Member of Congress

Deborah Ross  
Member of Congress

Michael San Nicolas  
Member of Congress

Doris Matsui  
Member of Congress

Ted Deutch  
Member of Congress

Ayanna Pressley  
Member of Congress

Vicente Gonzalez  
Member of Congress

Steven Horsford  
Member of Congress

Jason Crow  
Member of Congress

David Trone  
Member of Congress

Dina Titus  
Member of Congress

Joseph Morelle  
Member of Congress

Peter Welch  
Member of Congress

Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress

Cindy Axne  
Member of Congress

Brian Higgins  
Member of Congress

Derek Kilmer  
Member of Congress

Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress

Jim Langevin  
Member of Congress

John Larson  
Member of Congress

Veronica Escobar  
Member of Congress

Colin Allred  
Member of Congress

Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress

Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress

Jim McGovern  
Member of Congress

Madeleine Dean  
Member of Congress

Susan Wild  
Member of Congress

Tom Suozzi  
Member of Congress

Jim Cooper  
Member of Congress

Karen Bass  
Member of Congress

Tim Ryan  
Member of Congress

Marilyn Strickland  
Member of Congress

Raul Ruiz  
Member of Congress

Charlie Crist  
Member of Congress

Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress

Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress

Sharice L. Davids  
Member of Congress

Andy Levin  
Member of Congress

Tom O'Halleran  
Member of Congress

Kweisi Mfume  
Member of Congress

Terri Sewell  
Member of Congress

Carolyn Maloney  
Member of Congress

Danny Davis  
Member of Congress

Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress

Haley Stevens  
Member of Congress

Stephen Lynch  
Member of Congress

Jennifer Gonzalez-Colon  
Member of Congress

Jerry McNerney  
Member of Congress

John Yarmuth  
Member of Congress

Susie Lee  
Member of Congress

Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress

Grace Meng  
Member of Congress

Judy Chu  
Member of Congress

John Rose  
Member of Congress

Chrissy Houlahan  
Member of Congress

Mike Doyle  
Member of Congress

Bobby Rush  
Member of Congress

Antonio Delgado  
Member of Congress

Raul Grijalva  
Member of Congress

David Cicilline  
Member of Congress

Ruben Gallego  
Member of Congress

Mark Takano  
Member of Congress

John Katko  
Member of Congress

Linda Sanchez  
Member of Congress

Bill Pascrell, Jr  
Member of Congress

Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress

Elissa Slotkin  
Member of Congress

Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan  
Member of Congress

Andy Kim  
Member of Congress

Carolyn Bourdeaux  
Member of Congress

cc:

Rep. Nydia Velazquez  
Chair, House Small Business Committee

Sen. Ben Cardin  
Chair, Senate Committee on Small Business & Entrepreneurship