

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steven Mnuchin
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20220

The Honorable Jovita Carranza
Administrator
Small Business Administration
409 3rd Street, SW
Washington, DC 20416

April 13, 2020

Dear Secretary Mnuchin and Administrator Carranza,

We write to relay many of the concerns we have heard first-hand from small businesses, nonprofits and lenders in our districts regarding the implementation of programs authorized under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Our nation has never faced a greater threat to millions of small businesses and the way of life they afford to millions of workers.

The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and the Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program (EIDL) were designed to provide immediate relief for small businesses, and while federal aid has begun to flow, we worry that the full scope of assistance appropriated and authorized under the CARES Act will not reach many businesses quickly enough. In particular, the EIDL grants were designed and intended to deliver a quick infusion of funds for struggling small businesses within 3 days after applying through the SBA website. Yet millions of small businesses have not received money intended for them.

To relieve the financial pressure on our nation's small business sector, we urgently request you issue comprehensive Standard Operating Procedure manuals for the PPP and enhanced EIDL programs so small businesses, nonprofits and lenders know how they can quickly access or provide assistance. The guidance released through your agencies thus far has caused a great deal of confusion among both lenders and their recipients, leading to more questions than answers. Further exacerbating our concerns is the way guidance has been released in piecemeal fashion and how programs are due to be implemented in ways that are directly contradictory to Congressional intent. We also remain extremely concerned about the widespread reports of technical barriers and capacity limitations that are preventing applicants from applying and receiving loans.

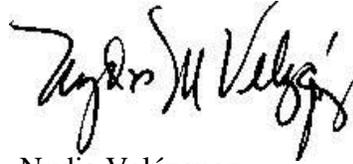
The economy is in critical condition, with some early indicators pointing to a large share of job loss coming from small businesses that may not be able to recover. To prevent further devastation of our small businesses, we ask you to provide transparency and to work efficiently to address outstanding questions and concerns.

Thank you for your timely consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Andy Kim
Member of Congress



Nydia Velázquez
Member of Congress

Ted Deutch
Member of Congress

Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress

Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr.
Member of Congress

Anthony G. Brown
Member of Congress

Eleanor Holmes Norton
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Member of Congress

Bill Pascrell, Jr.
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Judy Chu
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Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
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Sylvia R. Garcia
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Ben McAdams
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Angie Craig
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Cindy Axne
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Harley Rouda
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Abigail D. Spanberger
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Lisa Blunt Rochester
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Steve Cohen
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Lauren Underwood
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Susie Lee
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