

April 20, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker  
United States House of Representatives  
United States Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
United States Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell, Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
United States Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer, Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
United States Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20510

**RE: Additional Small Business Funding and 501(c)6 Inclusion in Next Round of COVID-19 Relief**

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leaders McConnell, McCarthy and Schumer:

We, the undersigned national organizations and our collective state and local affiliates are the top advocates for America's diverse entrepreneurs and workforce. Many of the organizations represented herein are members of the National Business Inclusion Consortium (NBIC). Collectively, the NBIC organizations represent over *\$9 trillion* in economic impact, as well as tens of thousands of tax-paying, industry-innovating jobs. Collectively, our organizations encourage parity in cross-segment diversity and inclusion initiatives, work to identify areas of collaboration among diverse businesses, and advocates for the advancement of policies that support the growth of diverse-owned companies in both the public and private sectors: including support for our businesses in times of crisis.

We are grateful for recent relief measures taken to protect our communities' small businesses and nonprofits impacted by the coronavirus (COVID-19) epidemic. However, many small and diverse owned businesses, already facing challenges due to marginalization and historic under investment, were not able to take advantage of the first round. We strongly urge you to make more money available and to prioritize America's diverse economy.

Our organizations and our affiliate chamber partners also urge you to include 501(c)6 business organizations in any upcoming federal aid packages or supplemental appropriations measures, as many have been and will be harmed economically by COVID-19, just as our 501(c)3 peers continue to be. Our specific organizations are primarily 501(c)(6) organizations that employ thousands of team members across the country and provide work for countless contractors throughout the year.

While advocacy for small business is but one facet of our operation, organizations like ours are essential partners to both government and businesses of all sizes. We are the trusted community partners of the small business owners and nonprofits who need this relief most, and who trust our ability to offer them invaluable resources to stay afloat and keep their teams employed. For relief

efforts to be successful, we must ensure all community-facing business organizations, including the 501(c)6s represented here who have the most intimate relationships with job creating small businesses, receive the resources they need to succeed as well.

Our organizations play a key role in connecting small diverse owned companies to contract and RFP opportunities that are the lifeblood of any small business and its ability to be successful.


Our organizations play a key role in educating small businesses on everything from financial literacy to writing a capabilities statement to leadership development and building an inclusive team.


Our organizations are called upon by the collective membership to help decipher economic development programs, including those developed specifically for COVID-19. Simply put, we are the key resource in helping businesses thrive, become a bigger part of the tax base and employ more people.


We would not object to stipulations that relief funds received by a 501(c)6 organization, may not be used for any lobbying expenses, employee size or industry representation as stipulated in the current amendment being discussed. We recognize the importance of accountability and transparency during this crisis.

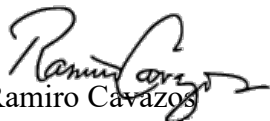
We thank you for your leadership and standby to assist you with information to help you ensure that another round of relief funds is allocated for small businesses and that all tax-exempt entities be included in any temporary aid designed to stem the economic fallout resulting from COVID-19.

Sincerely,

  
Justin Nelson  
Co-Founder & President  
National LGBT Chamber of Commerce

  
Ron Busby  
President & CEO  
US Black Chambers Inc.

  
Candace Waterman  
President & CEO  
Women Impacting Public Policy

  
Ramiro Cavazos  
President & CEO  
US Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

  
Chiling Tong  
President & CEO  
Asian/Pacific Islander American Chamber  
of Commerce and Entrepreneurship



In partnership with:

ACE NextGen

African American Business Leaders Council of Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce

Albuquerque Hispano Chamber of Commerce

American Vietnamese Chamber of Commerce Las Vegas

Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Asian American Business Assistance Center

Asian American Executive Network

Asian Business Association

Asian Chamber of Commerce

Asian Chamber of Texas (ACT) previously known as Greater Dallas Asian American Chamber of Commerce

Asian Pacific American Chamber of Commerce

Austin LGBT Chamber of Commerce

Austin Young Chamber

Balch Springs Chamber

Brazoria County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Brooklyn NY Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Cal Asian Chamber of Commerce

Charlotte LGBT Chamber of Commerce

Civitas Regional Chamber of Commerce

Colorado LGBTQ Chamber of Commerce

Connecticut Gay and Lesbian Chamber (CTGLC)

Desert Business Association

Detroit Regional LGBT Chamber of Commerce

Diversity Chamber of Central Ohio

Equality Chamber of Commerce DC

Florida Hispanic American Chamber of Commerce, Inc.

Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce of Nevada

Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Golden Gate Business Association  
Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Fort Lauderdale LGBT Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Houston LGBT Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Oklahoma City Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Philadelphia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Phoenix Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Quad Cities Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
Greater San Jose Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
GSBA, Washington State's LGBTQ and Allied Chamber  
Guatemala Chamber of Commerce  
Gulf South LGBT Chamber of Commerce  
Hampton Roads Business OutReach  
Hispanic Chamber Cincinnati USA  
Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce  
Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Coastal Virginia  
Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Greater Kansas City  
Hispanic Chamber of E-Commerce  
Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Greater Orlando  
Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Louisiana  
Hispanic Chambers of Commerce San Francisco  
Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
Illinois Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
Independence Business Alliance  
Iowa LGBT Chamber of Commerce  
Irving Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
Keystone Business Alliance  
Latin American Chamber of Commerce of Charlotte  
Latin Chamber of Commerce Nevada



Latino Chamber of Commerce of SE Wisconsin Inc.

Leaders Forum

LGBT Chamber of Commerce of Illinois

LGBTQ Business Council of the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber

Long Beach Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce

Long Island Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce

Los Angeles Latino Chamber of Commerce

Maryland LGBT Chamber of Commerce

Metropolitan Savannah Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Miami-Dade Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce

Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Mid-America LGBT Chamber of Commerce

Midland Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Morris County Hispanic American Chamber of Commerce

Nashville Area Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Nashville LGBT Chamber

New Jersey Chinese-American Chamber of Commerce

nglccNY: New York's LGBT Chamber of Commerce

Nicaraguan American Chamber of Commerce Northern California

NJ LGBT Chamber of Commerce

North Texas LGBT Chamber of Commerce

Orange County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

OUT Georgia Business Alliance

Quorum: Twin Cities LGBT Chamber of Commerce

Rainbow Chamber Silicon Valley

Regional Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Regional Hispanic Contractors Association

Rio Grande Valley Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Rio Grande Valley Partnership



San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
San Diego Equality Business Association  
South Carolina Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
Seattle Latino Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce  
St. Louis LGBTQ+ Chamber of Commerce  
Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of NJ  
Tampa Bay LGBT Chamber  
Tennessee Latin American Chamber of Commerce  
Texas Association of Mexican American Chambers of Commerce  
The Massachusetts LGBT Chamber of Commerce  
The National Puerto Rican Chamber of Commerce  
The Pride Chamber of Orlando  
The United States-Mexico Chamber of Commerce  
United Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce  
Utah LGBTQ+ Chamber of Commerce  
Virginia Hispanic Chamber  
West Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
Wichita Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce  
Women's Business Council of the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber

CC: Chairwoman Nydia Velázquez  
Chairman Richard Neal  
Chairwoman Nita Lowey  
Ranking Member Steve Chabot  
Ranking Member Kevin Brady  
Ranking Member Kay Granger