

BRIAN J. MAST  
18TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-0918

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March 19, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
U.S. Senate  
Office of the Majority Leader  
The Capitol, S-230  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Office of the Speaker  
The Capitol, H-232  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
U.S. Senate  
Office of the Minority Leader  
The Capitol, S-221  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Office of the Minority Leader  
The Capitol, H-204  
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

As you continue to negotiate the details of an economic stimulus package to help struggling businesses and individuals during the current health crisis, we urge to you make loans under the Small Business Administration Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program (EIDL) available at 0% for small businesses experiencing economic hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic. This would provide vital economic support for our small business owners and employees during this time of crisis.

Passing the *Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act* was a critical first step for small businesses suffering during the COVID-19 outbreak, by making around \$7 billion available for 3.75% interest loans of up to \$2 million each. However, this may not be enough for small businesses, many of which have taken drastic steps to combat the transmission of the virus, including completely shutting their doors.

In order to do everything we can to lessen this burden for small businesses, we believe Congress should follow the example of Florida's successful Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan Program, which offers interest-free loans for up to one year for small businesses experiencing economic hardship. This would provide much-needed relief to small businesses to cover expenses, such as paid family and medical leave, that may be necessary during this time.

Therefore, we strongly encourage you to make EIDL loans in the upcoming stimulus package available at 0% interest for small businesses impacted by COVID-19.

Sincerely,



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Brian Mast  
Member of Congress



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Brian Fitzpatrick  
Member of Congress



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Bob Gibbs  
Member of Congress



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John Moolenaar  
Member of Congress



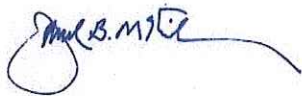
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Derek Kilmer  
Member of Congress



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Steven Palazzo  
Member of Congress



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David B. McKinley, P.E.  
Member of Congress



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Ted Deutch  
Member of Congress



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Gus M. Bilirakis  
Member of Congress



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William R. Timmons, IV  
Member of Congress



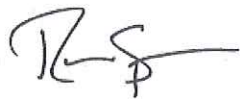
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Pete Stauber  
Member of Congress



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Tim Walberg  
Member of Congress



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Ross Spano  
Member of Congress



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David Rouzer  
Member of Congress



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Gerald E. Connolly  
Member of Congress



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Doug LaMalfa  
Member of Congress



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Denver Riggleman  
Member of Congress



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John Katko  
Member of Congress



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Glenn Grothman  
Member of Congress



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Darren Soto  
Member of Congress



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Troy Balderson  
Member of Congress

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Frederica Wilson  
Member of Congress