



State of Connecticut
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
STATE CAPITOL
300 CAPITOL AVENUE
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

May 22, 2020

The Honorable Richard Blumenthal, U.S. Senator The Honorable Chris Murphy, U.S. Senator
The Honorable John Larson, U.S. Rep. The Honorable Joe Courtney, U.S. Rep.
The Honorable Rosa DeLauro, U.S. Rep. The Honorable Jim Himes, U.S. Rep.
The Honorable Jahana Hayes, U.S. Rep.

United States Senate
U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

United States House of Representatives
U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear members of the Connecticut Congressional Delegation,

We are writing to convey the concerns of many small business owners in our districts and the need for adjustment of the current Paycheck Protections to be passed by the United States Congress.

Currently, many struggling Connecticut businesses are finding themselves in a situation where a loan that was supposed to be a lifeline, might pull them deeper into financial difficulties. The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) is intended to incentivize small business owners to keep their employees on payroll during the COVID-19 Pandemic. If businesses meet certain requirements, such as utilizing 75% of their loan for payroll within eight weeks, the loan is converted to a forgivable grant. Unfortunately, many Connecticut small businesses that received the PPP were not able to reopen in time to meet the deadline and their loans will accrue interest as a result.

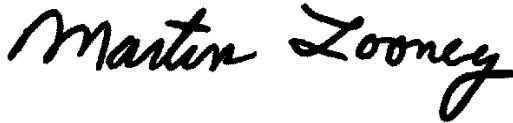
With their doors shut and employees at home since late March, there has been no opportunity for businesses to meet the requirements for loans forgiveness. Connecticut small business owners need flexibility and extra time to either utilize their loans for payroll expenses or be allowed to pay back the full amount of their loan without incurring any interest.

Many of the businesses also need to invest in “Personal Protective Equipment” and other protections for their workers and customers. This is an additional burden to the struggling businesses.

Connecticut small business owners need your help to fix the PPP and allow it to be interest free for six months from the time of receiving the funds. The utilization time needs to increase from eight weeks to sixteen weeks for the conversion to forgivable grant. Moreover, the allowable expenditures should include safety equipment and personal protective equipment for the protection of the workers and customers.

We thank you for your leadership during these difficult times and looking forward to your help and support for the small businesses in the state.

Sincerely,



Martin M. Looney, 11th Senate District



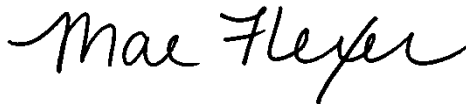
Bob Duff, 25th Senate District



Alex Kasser, 36rd Senate District



Norman Needleman, 33rd Senate District



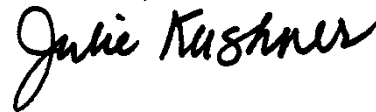
Mae Flexer, 29th Senate District



Carlo Leone, 27th Senate District



Will Haskell, 26th Senate District



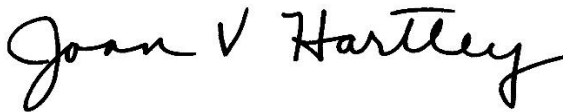
Julie Kushner, 24th Senate District



Marilyn V. Moore, 22nd Senate District



Catherine A. Osten, 19th Senate District



Joan V. Hartley, 15th Senate District



James Maroney, 14th Senate District



Mary Daugherty Abrams, 13th Senate District



Christine Cohen, 12th Senate District



Matthew L. Lesser, 9th Senate District



Derek Slap, 5th Senate District



M. Saud Anwar, 3rd Senate District



John W. Fonfara, 1st Senate District