



December 1, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
U.S. Senate Majority Leader
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer
U.S. Senate Minority Leader
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

Dear Congressional Leadership:

As an organization of small business owners and entrepreneurs representing over 500,000 members, we urge you to immediately consider and pass legislation that would renew the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP).

The PPP was the centerpiece of the CARES Act that President Trump signed into law in March, helping small business owners weather the pandemic by distributing 4.9 million loans worth \$521 billion. PPP loans saved 51 million jobs and protected 84 percent of all small business employees in the entire country.

The PPP is a bipartisan success story and one of the most successful government programs of all time. That's because it was a true partnership with the private sector, helping small business owners keep their lights on and keep their employees paid in order to survive government-imposed lockdowns.

Unfortunately, the program expired on August 8th. Since then, the PPP has been held hostage by partisan wrangling over a new relief bill. Leader McConnell said he wants another relief bill passed and signed into law by the end of the year. We fully support that goal.

This is an urgent issue because states and localities are beginning another wave of lockdowns to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. In just the last few days, New York, New Jersey, Illinois, Michigan, Kentucky and other states have shut down their businesses or reduced their capacity. These lockdowns will likely increase as most health experts expect a surge in COVID-19 cases and deaths as the winter goes on. Former Vice President Biden has said that he will not impose a national lockdown but that is almost irrelevant in many places. Most small businesses won't survive the winter without help, especially in states that have yet to open completely since the spring.

The best way to mitigate an economic catastrophe is to renew the PPP and get it passed and signed into law before the end of the year. President Trump and congressional leaders in both



parties have already said PPP renewal must be included in the next relief bill. Therefore, there is no excuse for delay. The time is now. Nothing is more urgent.

PPP renewal should consist of the following: First, allow small businesses to tap into the \$130 billion that is already in the program. Second, allow small businesses to take out a second loan. Finally, clarify that the loan is not taxable as income.

JCN is launching “Operation May Day” to keep small businesses financially-viable through May, when things might get back to normal. “Operation May Day” will use multi-media tools to build grassroots support and activate voters for PPP legislation. We are fully committed to this effort and we implore you to join us on behalf of America’s 60 million small business owners and employees.

We look forward to your timely response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Alfredo Ortiz'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alfredo Ortiz
President & CEO
Job Creators Network