April 14, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker, United States
House of Representatives

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate

Council of State Chambers Urges Additional Funding for America’s Small Business Through the Paycheck Protection Program

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader McConnell:

As leaders of America’s business community, the Council of State Chambers of Commerce (COSC) thanks you for uniting to pass the bipartisan Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. The CARES Act was a critical step to keeping our economy intact, protecting our American way of life, and preventing the unnecessary loss of even more jobs.

In the short time since the enactment of the CARES Act, it has become clear that the $349 billion appropriated to fund “Paycheck Protection Program” loans will be insufficient to meet the demand. Millions of businesses will need this crucial support to keep their employees through “shelter in place” and similar orders which are now in place nearly nationwide and may be extended further than originally anticipated.

On behalf of COSC, I respectfully urge you to swiftly appropriate at least $250 billion in additional funding for Paycheck Protection Loans. No eligible business should be prevented from receiving this essential support, especially those who timely filed applications for these loans. While we are hopeful you will ultimately include chambers of commerce and other 501(c)(6) non-profit organizations in this program, or another federal package, we urge swift agreement and passage of additional funding as soon as possible.

In unity for America’s future,

Mark Wilson
Chair, Council of State Chambers of Commerce
President & CEO, Florida Chamber of Commerce