



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

April 16, 2020

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

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

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Minority Leader McCarthy:

As Congress continues to work on additional legislation to address the health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, I write to share my strong support for additional relief for the community network that so many small businesses in northern Illinois depend on. Local chambers of commerce, trade associations, farm bureaus, and other community organizations play an important role in local economies across the country. Congress must not neglect these organizations at the very moment when they are most needed.

As this pandemic has unfolded, our local chambers of commerce have been working tirelessly to support the small businesses they serve and help them survive this crisis. Trade associations have been integral to maintaining supply chains and sharing best practices for conducting essential business while minimizing risk to employees and customers. And our farm bureaus are a critical resource for the small farms that feed America's families.

These institutions are pillars of our communities, and they are being severely impacted by the current crisis. As we work to ensure small businesses and entrepreneurs have the flexibility they need to weather this storm, we must ensure that their support networks—including local chambers of commerce, trade associations, farm bureaus, and other community organizations—are not left out of future relief packages.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. I stand ready to work with you as we continue to provide much-needed relief for the American people.

Sincerely,

Lauren Underwood