

April 6, 2020

The Honorable Dennis Davin
Secretary Department of Community and Economic Development
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street, 4<sup>th</sup> floor
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0225

## Dear Secretary Davin -

Thank you so much for your leadership in working to support Pennsylvania's small businesses during this challenging pandemic. We were grateful when the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development launched the COVID-19 Working Capital Access Program two weeks ago to help Pennsylvania-based small businesses in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic. Last week, just days after the program went live, DCED was forced to shut down the application process after announcing that applications received have surpassed the allotted funding available for the COVID-19 Working Capital Access Program. We understand that the program became oversubscribed very quickly with 900 applications received from 61 counties requesting \$76,275,970 in loan funding – much more than the \$60M initial investment. We collectively represent hundreds of small businesses who were waiting in line to submit but got locked out of the process.

While the Federal Small Business Administration has developed other resources for small businesses, we believe that the COVID-19 Working Capital Access Program meets a unique need that will not be filled by SBA resources and the state program must be recapitalized as quickly as possible.

The COVID-19 Working Capital Access Program provides support to the local small businesses who are at the center of what it will take to rebuild our economy after the COVID-19 pandemic ends.

We write to ask you to recapitalize the fund as soon as possible with any discretionary funds available and then allocate Federal CARES Act to this loan program as soon as those dollars are available. Given the scope of the need, \$1B in additional funding is necessary.

In future rounds, we also respectfully request that you consider proportional allocation of the funding based on actual impact of the pandemic, population and tax revenues generated for the state. These funds should be disbursed equitably, not just in "first come, first-served" practice.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Zh

Representative Leanne Krueger





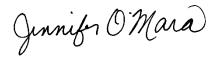
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Senator Anthony H. Williams

CC: Will Danowski Eric Hagarty