

March 31, 2020

Florida Association of Counties
100 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Florida League of Cities
301 South Bronough Street, Suite 300
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Dear Members of the Florida Association of Counties and Florida League of Cities:

I write to solicit your assistance to inform Florida's small businesses about resources that will soon be made available. The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, signed into law on March 27, 2020, includes a vital new program, the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), which will provide much needed liquidity to our constituents during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is your ability to connect directly with our businesses that will allow this program to be truly successful.

The PPP will provide those businesses with under 500 employees to receive forgivable loans for payroll and related business expenses, including rent, mortgage, utilities and health care premiums. Certain non-profits, sole proprietors, independent contractors and self-employed individuals are eligible as well. Loans will be calculated based on a business' monthly payroll, and if used on the costs described, will be forgiven.

Employers do not need to apply through the Small Business Administration, and instead, this new program will be available at more than 1,000 banks, credit unions, and other financial institutions already certified. The Department of Treasury is also tasked with adding additional lenders into the program to make this as accessible as possible. Included with this letter is a list of lenders that have been very active in lending to Floridians during the past decade.

The PPP was designed to give our businesses who continue to suffer from the pandemic's effects a fighting chance to survive, as well as keep the workforce employed. While we wait for implementing guidance, I respectfully ask that you disseminate the attached information to businesses in your area. I thank you in advance for the work you do on behalf of our great state, and together, we will come back stronger than ever.

Sincerely,



Marco Rubio
U.S. Senator