

# ALBANY CALIFORNIA



CITY OF ALBANY  
1000 SAN PABLO AVENUE  
ALBANY, CA 94706  
[www.AlbanyCA.org](http://www.AlbanyCA.org)

Speaker Nancy Pelosi  
1236 Longworth HOB  
Washington DC 20515

Leader Kevin McCarthy  
2468 Rayburn HOB  
Washington DC 20515

April 14, 2020

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader McCarthy,

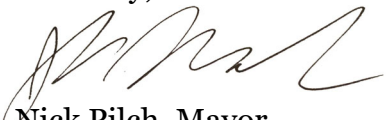
We appreciate your leadership in providing unprecedented resources for American small businesses through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (Public Law 116-136). Unfortunately, local chambers of commerce, which play a crucial role in sustaining our Main Street economy, are ineligible for assistance through the lending programs included in this legislation. Given the severe financial difficulties that many of these organizations are now confronting, we ask that you include language in the next coronavirus relief bill to enable local chambers and other 501(c)(6) organizations that support the needs of our local businesses to access direct federal aid.

Chambers of commerce are non-profit, tax-exempt organizations that bring together business leaders in our communities, helping them to negotiate shared challenges and promote local economic development. At this exceptionally difficult time for our Main Street economy, local chambers are providing critical guidance and resources to help small businesses weather the current economic downturn, including urgently-needed assistance in obtaining loans and grant funding from the federal government.

Unfortunately, just like the small businesses they serve, many local chambers are now experiencing their own financial challenges. If these organizations are unable to survive, the path to recovery for our hard-hit Main Street economy will be even more difficult. To help local chambers meet their current obligations and continue assisting small businesses in our communities, we strongly believe that Congress should ensure these organizations are eligible for Economic Injury Disaster Loans and allow them to participate in the Paycheck Protection Program.

Again, we believe the CARES Act will make a significant positive difference in our communities. However, to ensure that local chambers of commerce can continue to support small businesses at this precarious moment for our country, we are hopeful that you will take action to enable chambers of commerce and other 501(c)(6) organizations that support the needs of our local businesses to receive direct federal support through the initiatives in this legislation. We are grateful for your attention to this request and appreciate your diligent and committed work during this crisis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Pilch', written in a cursive style.

Nick Pilch, Mayor  
City of Albany

Cc: Shaun Charles, Albany Chamber of Commerce, [shaun@beaconhomecare.com](mailto:shaun@beaconhomecare.com)  
Tod Abbott, Albany Chamber of Commerce, [tod@fullorbitweb.com](mailto:tod@fullorbitweb.com)