

March 20, 2020

The Honorable Benjamin L. Cardin
509 Hart SOB
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mark R. Warner
703 Hart SOB
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Eleanor Holmes
Norton
2136 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chris Van Hollen
110 Hart SOB
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tim Kaine
231 Russell SOB
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Don Beyer
1119 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steny Hoyer
1705 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Robert J. Wittman
2205 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Morgan Griffith
2202 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Andy Harris
2334 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Elaine Luria
534 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jennifer Wexton
1217 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable C.A. Dutch
Ruppersberger
2206 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Robert C. Scott
1201 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Gerald E. Connolly
2238 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John P. Sarbanes
2370 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable A. Donald
McEachin
314 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Anthony Brown
1323 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Denver Riggleman
1022 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable David Trone
1213 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ben Cline
1009 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jamie Raskin
412 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC

The Honorable Abigail Spanberger
1239 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Members of the Congressional delegation for Maryland, the District of Columbia and Virginia:

As Congress works to address the devastating effects of the COVID-19 public health crisis, we applaud your shared efforts to keep our employers, their employees and their families, and communities safe, to ensure the supply chain for essential goods and services remains viable, and to deliver much-needed assistance, especially to those most vulnerable. However, the necessary steps being taken to keep the public safe and healthy is having devastating immediate impacts on our economy, especially for our small and medium-sized businesses and their employees, with real risk that these immediate impacts will have lasting effect. Already businesses have shuttered operations and many have laid-off employees.

Congress is developing legislative proposals to immediately address the public health crises and respond to the enormous impact it is having on the economy. We support those efforts, and we urge you to work quickly, in a bipartisan manner, to protect workers, businesses and the broader economy from the impacts of this crisis, both near-term and long-term. Failure to act now and with haste will have a far greater long-term cost to our economy.

Many sectors of our economy, from hospitality to transportation to services, are facing serious financial and operating pressures during this crisis. Measures to keep the public safe have resulted in reduced demand, creating budgetary challenges for employers and their employees, and reduced ridership, revenues, and increased operating costs for our transportation agencies that are essential to providing the necessary health care. As measures taken by our elected leaders to contain COVID-19 escalate, these already severe impacts will grow exponentially, and without immediate action the risk is that these impacts will have lasting costs to workers, families, businesses, and our entire region.

We are committed to working with you to deliver expeditiously the economic security needed during and after this health crisis. We encourage you to pass a stimulus package that:

- Provides adequate financial relief to individuals and families that address income, housing, health care and food challenges;
- Preserves jobs;
- Maintains business liquidity and viability for those most affected;
- Protects the health and safety of our frontline workers; and
- Directs additional operating support to our public transportation systems to ensure essential service can continue and limits budgetary cuts in the coming months.

We support the actions taken by Governor Hogan, Governor Northam and Mayor Bowser to speak with one voice to tackle the global health pandemic. We are ready to work with you to get a third stimulus package agreed to and passed by Congress, and we stand ready to rapidly disseminate information to our employers so they can access the essential programs that are being funded by Congress.

We are aligned to support your leadership in the passage of an economic relief package as we all work together during this severe public health and economic crisis.

Sincerely,

Joseph Haggerty, President & CEO
Alexandria Chamber of Commerce

Kate Bates, President & CEO
Arlington Chamber of Commerce

Sheree Anne Kelly, President & CEO
Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives

Gina Stewart, Executive Director
BWI Business Partnership

Brian Anderson, President & CEO
ChamberRVA

Elliott L. Ferguson II, President & CEO
Destination DC

Lisa María Mallory, President & CEO
District of Columbia Building Industry Association

Vincent Orange, President & CEO
District of Columbia Chamber of Commerce

John Boylan, President & CEO
Dulles Regional Chamber

Michele Whelley, President & CEO
Economic Alliance of Greater Baltimore

Anthony A. Williams, CEO & Executive Director
Federal City Council

Donald C. Fry, President & CEO
Greater Baltimore Committee

Ginanne M. Italiano, President & CEO
Greater Bethesda Chamber of Commerce

Jack McDougle, President & CEO
Greater Washington Board of Trade

Tony Howard, President & CEO
Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce

Michael Sakata, President & CEO
Maryland Transportation Builders & Materials
Association

Julie Coons, President & CEO
Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce

Marji Graf, President & CEO
Rockville Chamber of Commerce

Jane Redicker, President & CEO
Greater Silver Spring Chamber

Jason S. Miller, CEO
Greater Washington Partnership

Leonardo McClarty, President & CEO
Howard County Chamber of Commerce

Georgette Godwin, President & CEO
Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce

David Harrington, President & CEO
Prince George's Chamber of Commerce