

# Tell Congress: Pass Pandemic Relief Now

Thank you to the many chambers and trade associations who have joined the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in urging lawmakers to enact critical pandemic relief before the end of the year. Though <u>we are encouraged</u> by the bipartisan progress that has been made, the situation remains fluid and we need to continue the pressure.

On Monday, the <u>U.S. Chamber urged Congress</u> to reach a final agreement on the relief package. If you haven't yet contacted your congressional delegation to join the bipartisan effort, please consider taking the following actions to help keep the pressure on Congress:

- <u>Send a Letter to Congress with Custom State Data:</u> <u>Click here</u> to download a draft letter to send to your Congressional delegation with links to state-specific data that will help move the needle.
- <u>Have Your Members Send Letters to Congress with One Click</u>: Encourage your members to <u>click here</u> to send a letter to your Congressional delegation demanding action now. This user-friendly tool makes it easy to send a letter to Congress with just one click.
- <u>Spread the Word on Social Media</u>: Thank the legislators who have committed to pass this reform and urge others to do the same by sharing our <u>social media</u> <u>graphic</u> and the suggested language below.

"Congress: break the current impasse and pass legislation this year. American small businesses and families are counting on you #ReliefNow"

## **ICYMI: COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Member Briefing**

Thank you to everyone who joined the U.S. Chamber of Commerce on Monday for the member-exclusive briefing on the COVID-19 vaccine rollout. During the briefing, former U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Commissioner Mark McClellan shared his perspective on the latest developments with COVID-19 vaccines, and National Governors Association (NGA) Healthcare Cost And Coverage program director Kate Johnson shared key insights from the new <u>Supporting An Equitable Distribution Of COVID-19 Vaccines</u> report.

Click Here to View the Report

If you were unable to join the briefing, or would like to watch it again, please <u>click here</u> to view the video recording.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce will continue to host periodic briefings about the business issues associated with COVID-19 vaccinations. In the meantime, please contact Hilary Crow at <u>hcrow@uschamber.com</u> if you have any questions, comments or feedback.

#### Small Business Owners Still Feel Pain of Pandemic and Fear More to Come

Yesterday, the U.S. Chamber and MetLife <u>released</u> the <u>Q4 Small Business Index</u>—a survey of 1,000 small businesses to take the temperature of the sector, see where small business owners are confident, and where they are experiencing challenges. The Q4 index in particular focused on small business owners' outlook in the wake of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Among other insights, the Q4 Small Business Index finds that:

- Only **40%** of all small business owners believe their business can continue to operate indefinitely without having to shut down permanently;
- 62% of small businesses fear that the worst is still to come with COVID-19's economic impact;
- 74% of all small business owners say they need further government assistance to weather the storm;
- Combatting COVID-19 (44%) and the economy (44%) are the two top small business priorities for the incoming president and Congress.

Click Here to View the Full Index

## Upcoming Calls, Webinars, and Conferences

#### Tuesday, January 12, 2021: 2021 State of American Business

Please join the U.S. Chamber of Commerce on **Tuesday**, **January 12**, **2021 at 12:00 p.m**. **ET** for the 22nd annual <u>State of American Business</u> event exploring how a united business community can rally a divided nation around a widespread economic recovery, restore good governance, and rebuild our economy for the future.

This year, we are adding Policy Power Hours during the week of the State of American Business on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday to explore the challenges and opportunities on the horizon at the state, national, and global level. <u>Click here</u> to learn more and to register now.

Stay tuned: additional details on the program, speakers, and involvement opportunities for you and your members are forthcoming.

Click Here to Register Now

For information about other upcoming events, click here.

#### **Guides and Resources from the U.S. Chamber**

The U.S. Chamber continues to create, update, and evolve its various guides and resources to continue bringing you and your members the information you need during this difficult time. We encourage you to continue utilizing and sharing the following items as you see fit:

- Federal Unemployment Assistance Proposals: State Impact Comparison
- Guide to PPP Loan Forgiveness
- <u>Reopening Business Digital Resources Center</u>
- Reopening Business Digital Resources Center Toolkit
- Small Business Reopening Playbook
- Main Street Lending Program Guide
- <u>State-Specific Guidance Map</u>
- Backgrounder on Health Coverage Options
- Backgrounder on Unemployment Insurance Under the CARES Act
- Independent Contractor's Guide to CARES Act Relief
- Coronavirus Emergency Loans Small Business Guide and Checklist
- <u>Temporary Paid Leave and Family Medical Leave Guide</u>
- Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) Program Guide
- Employee Retention Tax Credit Guide
- <u>Coronavirus Small Business Guide</u>
- <u>Coronavirus Response Toolkit</u>

Thank you.

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