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CHRISTOPHER L. JACOBS SENATOR, 60TH DISTRICT

April 13, 2020

Honorable Charles E. Schumer United States Senate 322 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Schumer:

I hope you and your family are safe and in good health during these difficult times.

I write to you today with a great sense of urgency, imploring you to approve additional funding for the Paycheck Protection Program originally created by U.S. Senate bill 3548 - the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

As you know this legislation allotted \$350 billion in federal funding to the Small Business Administration to distribute to eligible businesses, providing desperately needed financial support to enable these companies to keep their staff employed and to survive through this pandemic. So great is the need that as of this week the over 834,000 loans have been processed and \$206 billion of the initial \$350 billion has already been committed. With over 30 million small businesses in the United States, ensuring this program is well funded and widely available is critical to the future success of our economy in New York State.

The Senate Republican Conference has introduced a clean funding bill that would provide an additional \$250 billion in funding to the Paycheck Protection Program – bringing the total funding of the program to \$600 billion. I strongly urge you to work towards passing this clean bill in a bi-partisan manner as soon as possible.

In Western New York alone we have over 55,000 small businesses, all of which are vital to the survival and comeback of our region. Statewide, 99% of all businesses are small businesses, accounting for 4.1 million New York jobs. Our communities and state economy are directly dependent on these businesses ability to survive. Any obstruction to the flow of this vital funding puts their very existence, and the jobs of the millions of people they employ at risk.

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Again, I strongly urge you to use your leadership position to work with the Senate majority to pass a clean bill increasing funding to the Paycheck Protection Program. New York's small business owners and their employees do not have any more time to waste. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Chris Jacobs State Senator