

HENRY McMaster Governor

March 13, 2020

The Honorable Donald J. Trump The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest Washington, District of Columbia 20500

Dear Mr. President,

This is to request access to federal assistance provided by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) related to disaster assistance, including direct SBA loans for economic injury.

South Carolina has been adversely affected statewide by the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19). Further, we are keenly aware of the mounting impact on all of our businesses, especially small businesses and those in the service and tourism sectors. There are approximately 100,000 employer firms in South Carolina and 97,000 have fewer than 50 employees. The cancellations of conferences and meetings alone is beginning to affect our companies, particularly the smaller operations, resulting in the loss of revenues.

Recognizing the increasing impact of the coronavirus and in consideration of South Carolina's commitment to support the business community, we want to be proactive and preemptive in meeting these expected needs.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Yours very truly,

Henry McMaster

HDM/bw