

**Congress of the United States**  
Washington, DC 20510

March 18, 2020

The Honorable Jovita Carranza  
Administrator  
U.S. Small Business Administration  
409 3<sup>rd</sup> St SW  
Washington, DC 20416

Dear Administrator Carranza:

We are writing in support of Illinois Governor JB Pritzker's request for a U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Economic Injury Declaration for qualifying counties in Illinois amid the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic.

As of this week, more than 100 cases of coronavirus have been confirmed in Illinois. The Governor has ordered the closure of all dine-in restaurants and bars, and he has prohibited gatherings of 50 people or more.

The economic impact the pandemic is having on Illinois businesses and the local communities they serve is dire, and there is extraordinary demand for state and local government resources for emergency response. Assisting small businesses in recovery is of the utmost importance to these communities.

Governor Pritzker has determined that this incident is of such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the state and local governments. We respectfully request that you issue a SBA Economic Injury Declaration that includes all counties for which the Governor has requested such assistance, and that the loans also be offered to the counties that are contiguous to the declared counties.

Thank you in advance for your timely consideration of this important request. We stand ready to assist in any way appropriate.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



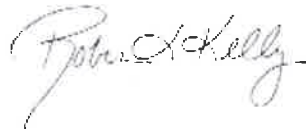
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United States Representative



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United States Representative



Adam Kinzinger  
United States Representative



Raja Krishnamoorthi  
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Lauren Underwood  
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Darin LaHood  
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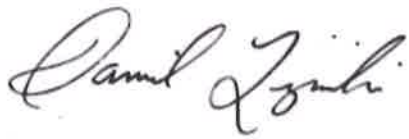
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United States Representative