

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

April 28, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
H-232, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
H-204, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Minority Leader McCarthy:

Thank you for your leadership in fighting for our nation's workers as our country responds to these unprecedented health and economic challenges.

As you know, as a key part of the CARES Act, Congress set up an unprecedented forgivable loan program, the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), to aid small businesses and nonprofits in retaining their workforce and ensure they can weather this crisis. However, while faith-based nonprofit institutions and other 501(c)(3) nonprofits are among the beneficiaries of the program, 501(c)(5) organizations, like labor unions, were excluded, despite the critical role they and their members will play in overcoming—and recovering from—this crisis.

The exclusion of labor unions is a serious impediment to achieving the main goal of the CARES Act—to help workers weather the economic effects of the crisis. In January 2020, the Bureau of Labor Statistics estimated that unions represented 14.6 million hard-working Americans. Now, staggering numbers of union members who work in critical industries have been thrown into financial insecurity as company after company has furloughed or laid off millions of workers. Compounding those layoffs, the severity of the coronavirus' economic disruption has threatened the financial viability of many labor unions as their workers are laid off or furloughed causing dramatic declines in the union member dues that sustain their operations and staff.

It is especially critical at this time that the organizations fighting for America's workers have equal access to the recovery funds made possible by the CARES Act. While unions hit hard by the crisis were excluded, large corporations can benefit from exceptions in the CARES Act that allow them to receive forgivable PPP loans meant for small businesses.

Congress must ensure labor unions can continue to do the crucial work of representing and fighting for rights of workers. Unions and their members will be crucial actors in our economic recovery, and we urge you to include them as eligible entities for federal support in programs like the PPP. Thank you for your consideration of this request. We look forward to working with you on legislation to contain the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus and strengthen our economy, our workers, and our families.

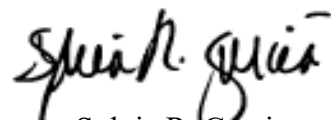
Sincerely,



Alan Lowenthal  
Member of Congress



Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



Sylvia R. Garcia  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Adam Smith  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Gerry E. Connolly  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Andy Levin  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Deb Haaland  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Gwen Moore  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Bobby L. Rush  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Marcy Kaptur  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Anthony G. Brown  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Madeleine Dean  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress

/s/  
C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Grace F. Napolitano  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Eliot Engel  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Dan Kildee  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Ruben Gallego  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Darren Soto  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Elaine G. Luria  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Tim Ryan  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Andy Kim  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Tulsi Gabbard  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Adriano Espaillat  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Peter A. DeFazio  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Jesús G. “Chuy” García  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Joyce Beatty  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Marc Veasey  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Pramila Jayapal  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress

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Albio Sires  
Member of Congress

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Bill Foster  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Rosa L. DeLauro  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Al Green  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Shelia Jackson Lee  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Paul D. Tonko  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Harley Rouda  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Vicente Gonzalez  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Marica L. Fudge  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Adam B. Schiff  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress

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Dina Titus  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Jimmy Gomez  
Member of Congress

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Jennifer Wexton  
Member of Congress

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Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress

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Ed Case  
Member of Congress

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David Trone  
Member of Congress

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David N. Cicilline  
Member of Congress

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Thomas R. Suozzi  
Member of Congress

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Anna G. Eshoo  
Member of Congress

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Jimmy Panetta  
Member of Congress

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Ted Lieu  
Member of Congress

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Ted Deutch  
Member of Congress

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Scott Peters  
Member of Congress

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Veronica Escobar  
Member of Congress

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Carolyn B. Maloney  
Member of Congress

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Lori Trahan  
Member of Congress

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Ilhan Omar  
Member of Congress

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Tom Malinowski  
Member of Congress

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Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress

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Steven Horsford  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Max Rose  
Member of Congress

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Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr.  
Member of Congress

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John P. Sarbanes  
Member of Congress

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Susie Lee  
Member of Congress

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James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Stephen Lynch  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Bonnie Watson Coleman  
Member of Congress

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Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress

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Norma J. Torres  
Member of Congress

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Suzan DelBene Member  
of Congress

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Abby Finkenauer  
Member of Congress

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John B. Larson  
Member of Congress

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Salud Carbajal  
Member of Congress

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John Yarmuth  
Member of Congress

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Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Member of Congress

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Jim Himes  
Member of Congress

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Alcee L. Hastings  
Member of Congress

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Joseph P. Kennedy, III  
Member of Congress

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William R. Keating  
Member of Congress

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Donna E. Shalala  
Member of Congress

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Katie Porter  
Member of Congress

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Sean Patrick Maloney  
Member of Congress

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Conor Lamb  
Member of Congress

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Maxine Waters  
Member of Congress

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Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress

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Brian Higgins  
Member of Congress

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Mike Levin  
Member of Congress

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Bennie G. Thompson  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Derek Kilmer  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress