



Brazoria County  
**Hispanic**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



May 19, 2020

The Honorable John Cornyn  
United States Senate  
517 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ted Cruz  
United States Senate  
127A Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator,

Thank you for your steadfast leadership providing financial relief to health care providers, first responders, small businesses and all workers during this unprecedented COVID-19 crisis. This month, Representative Chris Pappas introduced H.R.6697, which would extend eligibility for Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) participation to 501(c)6 organizations. As you consider a fourth potential stimulus package, we ask for your support in extending the (PPP) eligibility to 501(c)6 organizations like ours to provide much needed relief for the negative impacts of COVID-19.

Our operational budgets are supported by dues and events, which have both been drastically affected this year. We have pivoted and are finding creative ways to actively respond to the needs of our members during this unprecedented time. However, without your swift action on our behalf, harm will be irreparable, and many chambers of commerce will shutter permanently.

Our work as Hispanic chambers is critical to the economic fabric of this country. Hispanics have launched more small businesses than any other demographic group, and now contribute nearly \$500 billion to the economy in annual sales. Unfortunately, COVID-19 is having an alarming and disproportionate impact on these same businesses we serve.

The Texas economy is the 10<sup>th</sup> largest in the world and the second largest in the U.S. In Texas, Hispanic Chambers of Commerce support, and are committed advocates, for thousands of small businesses--the backbone of our state's and national economy. Through our collaboration and innovative work, our chambers have proven to be trusted partners to thousands of diverse members who employ a significant number of workers, to include front-line, essential personnel responding to the COVID-19 pandemic in the medical, agricultural and logistics industries. These members and their employees will continue to be a critical component to our nation's economic recovery.

Access to PPP funds would provide the financial security needed to continue supporting our members as they reopen their doors in a safe manner to protect our community's public health and safety, and economic vitality.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this issue. Please contact any of us should you have questions or require additional information.



FORT WORTH  
HISPANIC CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE



United Corpus Christi  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Greater Austin Hispanic  
Chamber of Commerce





Respectfully,

General Juan Ayala, Interim President & CEO  
San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Gina Aguirre Adams, President & CEO  
Brazoria County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Cindy Ramos Davidson, President & CEO  
El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Mary Ann Kellam, President & CEO  
Irving Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Anette Landeros, President & CEO  
Fort Worth Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

John LaRue, President & CEO  
United Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce

Rick Ortiz, President & CEO  
Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Luis Rodriguez, President & CEO  
Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Cynthia M. Sakulenzki, President & CEO  
Rio Grande Valley Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Rachel L. Stone, President & CEO  
Midland Hispanic Chamber of Commerce



