April 2, 2020

The Honorable Jovita Carranza
Administrator
Small Business Administration
409 3rd St SW
Washington, DC 20416

Dear Administrator Carranza:

We write to urge your immediate attention and swift action on an issue that threatens to discriminate against rural areas and the farmers that are the backbone of rural economies.

On March 27, the House passed the CARES Act (PL 116-136) to respond to the economic effects of the coronavirus pandemic, and the bill was then signed into law. Because the public health measures necessary to slow the spread of coronavirus are taking a particular toll on small businesses, including our nation’s farmers, the CARES Act provides a broad range of assistance to help tide over small businesses that might otherwise not be able to survive the impact.

Among those provisions, Section 1110 of the CARES Act creates an emergency economic injury grant program. In recognition that the coronavirus is affecting many types of entities that may not traditionally be considered small businesses, this provision expands the eligibility criteria in the underlying economic injury disaster loan program.

As a result, we were shocked and disappointed that, contrary to Congressional intent, the Small Business Administration singles out farmers and agricultural businesses as ineligible for this program. We ask that you share the Small Business Administration (SBA)’s rationale for excluding farms from this program, including any statutory limitations on aiding farmers.

We urge you to ensure that agricultural businesses and farmers are eligible to access the EIDL program, and the other small business provisions in the CARES act. Farmers need our help to make it through this pandemic while continuing to feed American families, fuel our economy, and sustain other resources which are essential to our survival. Now more than ever we must provide
our farmers and rural communities with federal assistance needed to combat this pandemic and not turn our backs on these communities.

Thank you, Administrator Carranza, for your attention to this critical matter, and for SBA’s work to address the economic impacts of this pandemic. SBA’s swift action on this issue will help alleviate the concerns of our nation’s family farms, which are vital to our country and our communities.

Sincerely,

ANTONIO DELGADO
Member of Congress

ANTHONY BRINDISI
Member of Congress

JOSH HARDER
Member of Congress

ANGIE CRAIG
Member of Congress

JUAN VARGAS
Member of Congress

JIM COSTA
Member of Congress

MIKE THOMPSON
Member of Congress

JARED HUFFMAN
Member of Congress

TJ COX
Member of Congress

JOSEPH D. MORELLE
Member of Congress

SALUD CARBAJAL
Member of Congress

DAVID SCOTT
Member of Congress

BOB GIBBS
Member of Congress

CHELLIE PINGREE
Member of Congress

DAVID TRONE
Member of Congress
THOMAS R. SUOZZI  
Member of Congress

ABIGAIL D. SPANBERGER  
Member of Congress

MARK POCAN  
Member of Congress

TOM O'HALLERAN  
Member of Congress

ELISE STEFANIK  
Member of Congress

JEFF DUNCAN  
Member of Congress

SUZANNE BONAMICI  
Member of Congress

JERRY MCNERNEY  
Member of Congress

BRIAN HIGGINS  
Member of Congress

LISA BLUNT ROCHESTER  
Member of Congress

ANN MCLANE KUSTER  
Member of Congress

MARCY KAPTUR  
Member of Congress

JAMES P. MCGOVERN  
Member of Congress

ANDY HARRIS, M.D.  
Member of Congress

JAHANA HAYES  
Member of Congress

BRIAN FITZPATRICK  
Member of Congress

RON KIND  
Member of Congress

JOE COURTNEY  
Member of Congress

DEBBIE MUCARSEL-POWELL  
Member of Congress

SEAN PATRICK MALONEY  
Member of Congress

CHRIS PAPPAS  
Member of Congress
HENRY C. “HANK” JOHNSON, JR.
Member of Congress

JOHN JOYCE, M.D.
Member of Congress

ANDREW “ANDY” KIM
Member of Congress

ADRIAN SMITH
Member of Congress

GREG STANTON
Member of Congress

PETER WELCH
Member of Congress

ED CASE
Member of Congress

HENRY CUÉLLAR
Member of Congress

DWIGHT EVANS
Member of Congress

RICK LARSEN
Member of Congress

JOHN KATKO
Member of Congress

CHERI BUSTOS
Member of Congress

GLENN GROTHMAN
Member of Congress

JOHN GARAMENDI
Member of Congress

PETE STAUBER
Member of Congress

RO KHANNA
Member of Congress

Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress

KENDRA S. HORN
Member of Congress

VICENTE GONZALEZ
Member of Congress

CHRISSY HOULAHAN
Member of Congress

AL LAWSON
Member of Congress
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Signature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOM MALINOWSKI</td>
<td>Member of Congress</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.</td>
<td>Member of Congress</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KURT SCHRADER</td>
<td>Member of Congress</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JIMMY PANETTA</td>
<td>Member of Congress</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Member of Congress