April 17, 2020

The Honorable Steven Mnuchin
Secretary of the Treasury
U.S. Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20220

The Honorable Jovita Carranza
Administrator
U.S. Small Business Administration
409 3rd Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20416

Dear Secretary Mnuchin and Administrator Carranza:

We write regarding transparency and oversight of two small business programs enacted as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act): the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) and Emergency Grants Program.

As you know, the CARES Act included $377 billion to SBA to provide relief to small business owners who are desperate for help during this unprecedented public health and economic crisis. The majority of this funding – $349 billion – was provided to support PPP, which provides forgiveness of up to 8 weeks of payroll costs based on employee retention and salary levels, no SBA fees, and six months of complete payment deferral.

Congress further provided to SBA $10 billion to carry out the Emergency EIDL Grant Program, which provides applicants who are eligible for an EIDL with up to $10,000 in advance grant money, regardless of whether they are approved for the loan. When Congress was debating the CARES Act, the underlying EIDL program had an estimated $1 billion in subsidy, which was enough to support approximately $7.3 billion in EIDLs.

Funding for both of these bipartisan programs must be replenished. Millions of small businesses and non-profits are desperate for the assistance offered by the PPP and EIDLs.

As Congress works to provide critical funding for these programs, we write to ask that you provide additional data and information about how loans and grants have been distributed.

First, on the PPP, we request that the following information be provided:

- Number and amount of loans disbursed to small businesses, including a breakout of loans by state, demographics, industry and loan size;
- Number and amount of loans disbursed to businesses under the NAICS 72 exception, including a breakout of loans by state, demographics, and loan size;
- Number and amount of loans provided to non-profits and religious institutions, including a breakout of loans by state, industry, and loan size; and
• Number and amount of loans disbursed broken out by lending institution, including a breakout of loans by state, demographics, industry, and loan size.

Second, on the EIDL and grant program, we request that the following information be provided:

• Number and amount of loans disbursed to small businesses, including a breakout of loans by state, demographics, industry, and loan size;

• Number and amount of grants disbursed to small businesses, including a breakout of loans by state, demographics, industry, and grant size;

• Number and amount of loans and grants provided to private non-profit organizations, including a breakout by state, industry, and loan and/or grant size; and

• Estimated funding necessary to provide loans and grants to meet applicant demand.

Finally we ask that you provide data outlining the total loan dollars and number of borrowers accessing debt relief in SBA’s core loan programs through the Debt Relief Program, and confirm that lenders have turned off automatic payments for all borrowers of SBA-backed 7(a), 504, and microloans.

Thank you for your attention to this request. Given the urgency of the situation, we look forward to your immediate response.

Sincerely,

Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator

Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator

Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator

Ron Wyden
United States Senator