

March 25, 2020

Representative Livingstone, Chairman Michelwitz, and colleagues:

We write on behalf of the 450+ small businesses and organizations we represent in Cambridge and Somerville, as well as the cosigned businesses, organizations, elected officials, and Chambers of Commerce in neighboring communities. COVID-19 poses an existential threat to the social and economic fabric of the Commonwealth. Relief is necessary now for recovery to be possible later.

As you convene to determine emergency relief measures for our local economy (business, creative, and non-profit included), we offer the outlined recommended relief measures, sourced directly from the surveyed owners and executive directors. They are the frontline; it is their collective voice we are trying to amplify.

Included in the executive summary are Core Principles Of COVID-19 Small Business Relief Measures and Recommended Relief Measures. We recognize this is not perfect legislation for immediate adoption. It is a grassroots effort to represent exactly what our communities report to be the most impactful measures for their businesses's survival. In many instances, municipal leadership seek state direction to make the decisions they deem possible and responsible for their community.

Over 50 business associations, elected officials, and Chambers of Commerce have signed in support to elevate these ideas to you, our decision makers. We are here to support you, and believe that the future of our cities, towns, and communities depend on collaboration during this crisis and beyond.

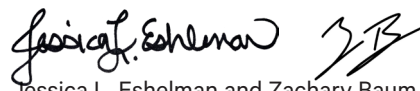
Thank you for your service,



Michael Monestime and Nina Berg, Central Square Business Improvement District



Jason Alves and Patrick Magee, East Cambridge Business Association



Jessica L. Eshelman and Zachary Baum, Union Square Main Streets



**Central Square**  
Business Improvement District



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