



March 25, 2020

Senator Thomas F. O'Mara  
NYS Senate  
LOB, Room 406  
Albany, N.Y. 12247

Assemblyman Philip A. Palmesano  
NYS Assembly  
LOB, Room 320  
Albany, N.Y. 122

Assemblyman Christopher S. Friend  
NYS Assembly  
LOB, Room 938  
Albany, N.Y. 12248

**RE: Memorandum in Support of “Small Business Emergency Recovery Act of 2020”**

Dear Senator O'Mara, Assemblyman Friend, and Assemblyman Palmesano:

On behalf of the members of the Chemung County Chamber of Commerce, I strongly support the “Small Business Emergency Recovery Act of 2020,” a relief package for small businesses and their employees. While I applaud the excellent efforts to protect our communities from the spread of COVID-19, “social distancing” regulations are devastating to small businesses in our region and throughout the state. New York businesses urgently need your help.

As outlined in the “Small Business Emergency Recovery Act of 2020,” the Chemung County Chamber of Commerce fully supports the proposals to:

- Immediately direct \$890 million from the state’s settlement reserve fund to small businesses;
- Develop a 0% loan program to help small businesses meet payroll commitments;
- Repurpose available tax credits to existing small businesses;
- Utilize all economic development discretionary funding for small businesses within New York state;
- Adjust deadlines for payment of business taxes 180 days into the future; and
- Suspend all regulatory fees on small businesses for 180 days



Approximately 99% of businesses in New York State are small businesses, and many of them are now facing the possibility of permanent closures and layoffs. Years of economic progress are at stake. Please support this common-sense emergency relief package to protect our small businesses and their employees.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kamala Keeley".

**Kamala Keeley  
President and CEO  
Chemung County Chamber of Commerce**