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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0307

Wednesday, March 18, 2020

The Honorable Jovita Carranza
Administrator
Small Business Administration
409 Third Street, S.W. Suite 7900
Washington, D.C. 20416-2230

Dear Administration Carranza:

I am writing in support of Arizona Governor Doug Ducey's recent request for a Small Business Administration declaration under 13 C.F.R. Part 123.3 for all affected Arizona counties.

On March 11, 2020, citing declarations of the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Governor Ducey declared a state of emergency in Arizona due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

As of March 17, approximately 200 Arizonans have been tested for COVID-19, and 20 cases of COVID-19 have already been confirmed. In an effort to limit opportunities for exposure, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has recommended that all Americans practice social distancing. In addition, President Donald J. Trump has recommended that any gathering be limited to 10 people or less.

To aid in this effort, all Arizona K-12 schools will be closed through at least Friday, March 27. The University of Arizona, Arizona State University, and Northern Arizona University have all transitioned to online learning for the remainder of the semester. The Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) has recommended all dining establishments in the counties of Maricopa, Pima, and Pinal transition to take-out and delivery only. The Phoenix and Tucson city governments have issued emergency declarations that mandate compliance with the recommendations from ADHS.

As you may know, small businesses make up 99 percent of Arizona's businesses. These businesses employ just under 44 percent of Arizona's workforce. The recent actions taken by federal, state, and local governments to slow the spread of COVID-19, while necessary to protect public health and safety, will significantly threaten the survival of Arizona small businesses. It is imperative that Arizona small businesses get the help they need to weather this unprecedented national emergency – the Arizona economy depends on it. A declaration by the Small Business Administration will provide much-needed working capital to my state's businesses through Economic Injury Disaster Loans.

I respectfully request your swift consideration and approval of this request. Please contact Anthony Papian with my office at (202) 224-9326 with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kyrsten Sinema", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kyrsten Sinema
United States Senator