

July 23, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell 317 Russell Senate Office Building Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi 1236 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Chuck Schumer 322 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy 2468 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leader McConnell, Speaker Pelosi, Leader Schumer and Ranking Member McCarthy:

On behalf of The Recovery Coalition, a non-partisan group of businesses and associations who believe that pro-growth tax policy changes and legislation are essential to helping our economy recover, we urge the adoption of the bi-cameral legislation by Sen. Cornyn (R-TX) and Rep. Arrington (R-TX19) to make general business credits refundable in the "Phase IV" economic recovery package being currently considered.

Congress already passed laws to make billions of dollars available to companies through tax credits, and the US Treasury already owes these moneys to companies. The bad news is that companies have to wait up to 20 years to get their money from the government, and in the current economic climate, these same businesses are laying-off their employees and curbing investments to conserve depleted cash balances.

Allowing immediate access to these credits is not a hand-out nor even new spending. These credits have already been earned by companies that develop innovative solutions or deliver betterments for society – such as cleaner energy and investments in underprivileged communities. Congress has rightfully understood that innovations and betterments could be developed faster by the private sector, so it granted tax credits to help incentivize and fund the research, development, buildouts, and operations of these socially important causes.

Unfortunately, with COVID-19 and the current state of the economy, many businesses won't generate enough taxable income to even claim their already earned credits for years to come. So, without the income to claim the credits, companies have little incentive to continue the activities that generate GBCs. Minority and underprivileged communities are already some of the hardest hit by the COVID-19 crisis, and if businesses cease to engage in programs that benefit those communities, they will only be further displaced by the pandemic.

In these times, why should companies have to wait? Companies used, and are using, their own money to do what Congress desired when designing these programs. This policy is publicly <u>supported</u> by over 100 trade associations and state Chambers of Commerce, representing tens of millions of jobs here in the U.S. It's time to put partisan politics aside; getting the funds over 20 years may have made sense at one point, but not now. Let companies have their hard-earned cash today, so they can use it to keep their employees working through slow times, continue to support these socially important causes and inject money into our economy by reinvesting in their businesses.

We stand ready and willing to work with Congress on ensuring this important legislation becomes reality. If you or your staff have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out at <a href="mailto:contact@recovery-coalition.com">contact@recovery-coalition.com</a>.

Sincerely,

Brian M Johnson

Executive Director, The Recovery Coalition

cc: All Members of Congress