



# CITY OF HOUSTON

**Sylvester Turner**

Mayor

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May 27, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
1237 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Majority Leader  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Majority Leader McConnell:

The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) has provided a needed injection of capital to millions of small businesses nationwide, as well as providing critical stimulus to the economy. Unfortunately, the legislation is too restrictive for some businesses, especially restaurants, hotels and other service-industry businesses.

In order to provide needed flexibility to small businesses, I support the H.R. 6886, the bipartisan Paycheck Protection Flexibility Act. Many small businesses are depending on this legislation passing quickly. Many are already four weeks into their PPP loan and need this flexibility before the forgiveness timeline runs out.

The most important part of this bill is allowing forgiveness for expenses beyond the eight-week covered period. That abbreviated timeline simply doesn't work for businesses that are prohibited from opening their doors or those that are under some restrictions rather than fully operating.

Businesses need to spread the loan proceeds over the full timeline of the crisis until their business returns to some semblance of normalcy. Otherwise, these businesses may end up putting employees on furlough, or worse, terminating them altogether.

I strongly encourage you to pass the PPP Flexibility Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sylvester Turner".

Sylvester Turner

Mayor