May 15, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
United States House of Representatives  
1236 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Republican Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
2468 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Democratic Leader  
United States Senate  
322 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

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

Thank you for your leadership during this unprecedented crisis. As members of the California Governor’s Task Force on Business and Jobs Recovery, we are non-political leaders from different sectors of the economy with the same goal: protecting the health of the 40 million Americans who call our state home and laying the foundation for California’s – and America’s – economic recovery. We write to you in our individual capacities and not on behalf of our firms and organizations.

COVID-19 has fundamentally changed how we will manage our businesses and organizations going forward, with the worst of the economic impact likely still to come. Reopening our economies is a welcome step forward, but the success of our efforts ultimately relies on building greater confidence among consumers that it is safe to shop and greater certainty for workers that the services they rely on to do their jobs will remain in place. Without that, we will be a re-opened economy in name only.

State, local and tribal governments are critical to our recovery. In the short-term, they must be able to scale-up necessary programs, like contact tracing and testing. Given budget shortfalls, they are also soon facing impossible decisions – like whether to fund additional safety measures related to COVID-19 that will help businesses reopen more quickly or prevent layoffs of teachers, police officers, firefighters and other first responders. Without additional assistance from the federal government, the very programs that will help people get back to their lives and get back to work – from childcare to job training to small business support – will all be forced up on the chopping block.
We deeply appreciated the quick financial assistance Congress provided workers, businesses and those who have been displaced by this unprecedented crisis. But now, because of the sudden drop in economic activity, many states, including California, will be forced to make deep cuts to programs that help those same individuals.

We stand with business leaders throughout the nation, from both sides of the aisle, who have respectfully and urgently requested that Congress direct $1 trillion in direct and flexible relief to states, tribes and local governments. It will protect core government services like public health, public safety, public education and help people get back to work. This funding will help our states and cities – and America’s economy – come out of this crisis stronger and more resilient. We urge you to have Congress take swift action and thank you once again for your leadership in this national crisis.

Sincerely,

Governor’s Task Force on Business and Jobs Recovery

Greg Adams
Willie Adams
Laura Albers
Jack Allen
Aida Alvarez
Senate pro Tem Toni Atkins
Ted Balestreri
Dan Beckerman
Marc Benioff
Angela Glover Blackwell
Catherine Blakemore
Jared Blumenfeld
Keely Bosler
E. Toby Boyd
Father Gregory Boyle
The Honorable Jerry Brown
Stacy Brown-Philpot
Michael S. Burke
Don Cameron
Rick Caruso
Lourdes Castro Ramirez
Amelia Ceja
Priscilla Chan
Jack Dangermond
The Honorable Gray Davis
Thom Davis
Oscar De La Torre
Lloyd Dean
Chris Dombrowski
Dorene C. Dominguez
Ron Fong
Sarah Friar
Dr. Mark Ghaly
John Grant
Peter Guber
Emile Haddad
Dan Hart
Mary Kay Henry
Antonia Hernández
Ron Herrera
Ben Horowitz
Robbie Hunter
Bob Iger
Paul Jacobs
Belinda Johnson
Pamela Kan
Lt. Governor Eleni Kounalakis
Sarah Krevans
Derrick Kualapai
Dr. Natasha Lee
TASK FORCE ON BUSINESS & JOBS RECOVERY

Monica Lozano
Rose Marcario
Dr. Magda Marquet
Ana Matosantos
Doug McCarron
Ken McNeely
Hamid Moghadam
Ann O’Leary, Task Force Co-Chair
Irma Olguin, Jr.
Cynthia A. Parker
Manuel Pastor
Garrett Patricio
Charles Phan
Pedro Pizarro
John Pritzker
Art Pulaski
Ken Ramirez
Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon
Jacqueline Reses
Stephen Revetria
Jessica Rodriguez

Teresa Romero
Fred Ruiz
Maria Salinas
Ted Sarandos
Lee Saunders
Jeff Shell
Christina Sistrunk
Dr. Patrick Soon-Shiong
KR Sridhar
Tom Steyer, Task Force Co-Chair
Julie Su
Gene T. Sykes
Sonia Syngal
D. Taylor
Elaine Trevino
April Verrett
Assembly Minority Leader Marie Waldron
Jeff Weiner
Janet Yellen
Allan Zaremberg