



NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION of
REALTORS®

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Vince Malta
2020 President

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The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
1236 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Republican Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
2468 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Republican Leader
U.S. Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Democratic Leader
U.S. Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

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

On behalf of the 1.4 million REALTORS®, I encourage any federal responses to COVID-19 include support for the self-employed professionals and other small business owners who are crucial to the growth and stability of the national economy. As the effects of the virus continue to unfold, decisive and necessary action taken now will have long-lasting power to overcome any broader implications.

The self-employed and small business owners impacted by COVID-19 deserve equal access to emergency funding and programs that are critical to their own livelihoods and families, as other benefits such as unemployment insurance may not be an available option. Making sure the burdens to access such funds and programs are minimal – while properly protecting against fraud and abuse – will ensure support is truly directed at those who need it most.

Small businesses face disproportionate burdens if they are forced to shut down, temporarily lose employees, or see their customer base drop in response to the virus. It is critical for Congress to keep this in mind as we confront the impact that COVID-19 has on this country's health and economy.

Any action to mitigate the effects of COVID-19 must include a strong foundation for self-employed and small business owners. We thank you for your attention to these very important matters and we stand ready to work with Congress to address this critical issue.

Sincerely,

Vince Malta
2020 President, National Association of REALTORS®



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