

May 20, 2020

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

The Honorable Nydia Velázquez  
Chairwoman, Committee on Small Business  
United States House of Representatives  
2361 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

**RE: Thank You for Expanding the Paycheck Protection Program in HEROES Act**

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Chairwoman Velázquez:

On behalf of the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE), which represents more than 48,000 association and nonprofit professionals nationwide, thank you for providing 501(c)(6) associations and other nonprofits access to the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) in your recent passage of the Health and Economic Recovery Omnibus Emergency Solutions (HEROES) Act (H.R. 6800).

ASAE and its members, including more than 2,000 in California and New York, are grateful for your recognition of the dire economic state our community shares with so many Americans during the COVID-19 pandemic. Adding PPP expansion to the HEROES Act is a major step to provide associations and other nonprofits the relief they critically need to survive. Collectively, 501(c)(6) associations are large-scale employers and serve as a cornerstone of our society and economy. California associations alone employ at least 41,480 people, while New York associations employ at least 32,807. Further, 501(c)(6) associations provided at least \$2.8 billion and \$2.6 billion in salaries for employees in California and New York, respectively, in 2018.<sup>1</sup>

Beginning with its March 10 appeal to Congress, ASAE continues to sound the alarm for our community, as associations and nonprofits across the country are devastated by event cancellations and vastly depleted reserve funds, among other maladies. Since passage of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (P.L. 116-136), ASAE has supported expanding the PPP so associations can access essential relief.

Expanding the PPP is a crucial step to help sustain America's associations and nonprofits, who tirelessly support communities, workers and critical industries amid our current crisis. To that end, ASAE and the association community unequivocally support your PPP expansion in the U.S. Senate. And as you consider vital legislation during this pandemic and beyond, please look to ASAE as a resource to help inform you and your staff regarding important issues for the 62,000 associations<sup>2</sup> across the country.

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<sup>1</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics; 2018 Annual Averages; Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)

<sup>2</sup> IRS Data Book 2018; North American Industry Classification System (NAICS); U.S. Census Bureau

Honorable Nancy Pelosi / Honorable Nydia Velázquez

May 20, 2020

Page 2

Thank you for approving this critical provision and for your steadfast support of our country during this challenging time. If you have questions regarding ASAE or the association community, please contact Mary Kate Cunningham, CAE, vice president of public policy for ASAE, at [mcunningham@asaecenter.org](mailto:mcunningham@asaecenter.org) or 202-626-2787.

Sincerely,



Susan Robertson, CAE  
President and CEO  
American Society of Association Executives

CC:

Democrats on the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Small Business:

The Honorable Abby Finkenauer  
The Honorable Jared Golden  
The Honorable Andy Kim  
The Honorable Jason Crow  
The Honorable Sharice Davids  
The Honorable Judy Chu  
The Honorable Marc Veasey  
The Honorable Dwight Evans  
The Honorable Brad Schneider  
The Honorable Adriano Espaillat  
The Honorable Antonio Delgado  
The Honorable Chrissy Houlahan  
The Honorable Angie Craig