



February 17, 2021

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Street
Trenton, NJ 08608
609-393-7707
www.njbia.org

The Honorable Phil Murphy
Governor, State of New Jersey
Office of Governor PO Box 001
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Governor Murphy,

**Michele N.
Siekerka, Esq.**
President and CEO

On behalf of our member businesses, NJBIA thanks you for your recent efforts to support and bolster New Jersey's business community by signing a major tax incentive law and increasing indoor capacity for our businesses.

Christine Buteas
Chief Government
Affairs Officer

As you know, 2020 was a historically devastating year for businesses, and small businesses, in particular. The policies we adopt now will determine the trajectory of our recovery. To that end, we wanted to bring to your attention newly introduced legislation, S-3457 (Addiego/Sweeney/Gopal/O'Scanlon/Testa/Kean), that would provide further support by appropriating \$300 million to the NJEDA to provide financial support to our small businesses and nonprofits.

Raymond Cantor
Vice President

The legislation acknowledges the devastation the COVID-19 pandemic and economic downturn have had on existing small business and nonprofit operations, and highlights that this devastation was not limited to those already in operation, but also disrupted the plans of entities that opened or planned to open in 2020.

**Christopher
Emigholz**
Vice President

While all acknowledge the jaw-dropping statistics that reflect these realities, the strain is also felt within communities where main streets are no longer able to meet residents' needs due to temporary and permanent closures. Without more assistance, the strain felt by business owners, New Jersey's workforce, and our communities at-large will likely only increase.

Nicole Sandelier
Director of
Economic
Policy Research

Your NJEDA has done a fantastic job of getting money out the door quickly to support small businesses throughout our state, and this new bipartisan legislation would only help further that. We urge your support of this important bill so that it quickly moves through the Legislature and gets signed into law to provide game-changing support for as many of our small businesses and nonprofits as possible. While this assistance would ensure these entities can reopen, stay open, and rehire workers, the ensuing impacts to the vitality of our economy, communities, and morale cannot be quantified.

Hunter Griffin
Policy Analyst

If you have any questions, please contact Chrissy Buteas, NJBIA Chief Government Affairs Officer, at cbuteas@njbja.org or at 908-447-3466.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christine Buteas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Christine Buteas
Chief Government Affairs Officer

cc:

Senate President Sweeney
Assembly Speaker Coughlin
Senate Minority Leader Kean
Assembly Minority Leader Bramnick
Senator Addiego
Senator Gopal
Senator O'Scanlon
Senator Testa