



April 24, 2020

Dear CA State Senators and Assemblymembers,

As business leaders in San Diego County, we are concerned about the future of our local economy and the survival of our small businesses. We have already seen economic devastation in terms of unprecedented job loss and the closure of businesses, many of which may never reopen.

The public health crisis we currently face extends beyond just the COVID-19 pandemic. Economic downturns can cause a whole litany of long-term public health issues including loss of health coverage, food insecurity, homelessness, domestic violence and mental health issues.

It is time to work toward reopening our economy and providing a path for more small business owners and their employees to get back to work. We believe that there is an opportunity to allow a greater number of businesses to open under the existing health and safety protocols.

Numerous small business owners have provided input as to how they are willing to adjust their business practices to operate within government health protocols. As leading business organizations, we are available and eager to work with our elected leaders to develop a path to get our small businesses back open.

We are requesting that you urge Governor Newsom to provide an opportunity for more businesses to operate within government health protocols.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Scott Ashton, Chief Executive Officer
Oceanside Chamber of Commerce

Bret Schanzenbach, President & CEO
Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce

Rachel Beld, Chief Executive Officer
Vista Chamber of Commerce

Rick Rungaitis, Chief Executive Officer
San Marcos Chamber of Commerce

Debra Rosen, President & CEO
North San Diego Business Chamber

James Rowten, President & CEO
Escondido Chamber of Commerce

Erik Bruvold, Chief Executive Officer
San Diego North EDC

Lila MacDonald, Chief Executive Officer
Fallbrook Chamber of Commerce

Sherry Yardley, Chief Executive Officer
Encinitas Chamber of Commerce