



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

March 17, 2020

Kem R. Fleming, Director
U.S. Small Business Administration Office of Disaster Assistance
Field Operations Center East
101 Marietta Street NW, Suite 700 Atlanta, GA 30303-2725

Dear Mr. Fleming,

Under provisions of Title 13 C.F.R. Part 123.3, I respectfully request that the Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) implement a Small Business Administrative declaration to provide assistance in the form of SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans to New Hampshire counties following the incident identified as Covid-19 from January 31, 2020, and ongoing.

An assessment was made of the business community over the past several days. As a result, we have determined that the following counties in New Hampshire have businesses that have experienced economic injury: Carroll, Hillsborough, Rockingham, Coos, and Strafford. These areas, along with the contiguous counties included, supports our request for a statewide declaration for disaster assistance.

Surveys of businesses, as well as inquiries into our Joint Incident Command, illustrate that the COVID-19 incident has had a significant impact on a variety of businesses within New Hampshire, most notably hospitality, event hosting and support, overseas trade, and small retail businesses dependent upon daily traffic. Direct economic loss is due to a decrease in customer sales and contracts brought about by canceled sporting and entertainment events, and canceled trips domestically and overseas for trade shows and client meetings. The necessity of quarantining employees and remotely working has placed a strain on businesses of all sizes. As a result of my emergency declaration, Schools and other institutions of higher learning have been instructed to temporarily transition to online classes, the impact of which will surely be felt by small businesses that provide supportive services to the schools and students. Finally, restaurants, bars, and other similar establishments have been ordered to transition to carry out, delivery, curbside pick-up, and drive through only

A survey of these affected businesses was conducted to determine the economic impact of their losses for the disaster period as compared to the same period in the preceding year. Based upon these surveys, I certify that at least five small businesses in the disaster area have suffered substantial economic injury as a result of the disaster and are in need of financial assistance not otherwise available on reasonable terms.

If you need additional information, please contact *Taylor Caswell, Commissioner of Business and Economic Affairs* at 603-271-0138 or taylor.caswell@livefree.nh.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christopher T. Sununu".

Christopher T. Sununu
Governor