



January 1, 2021

The Honorable Andreas Borgeas
State Capitol, Room 3082
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Anna Caballero
State Capitol, Room 5052
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Cottie Petrie-Norris
State Capitol, Room 4144
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 74 Keep California Working Act – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Borgeas, Senator Caballero, and Assembly Member Petrie-Norris:

On behalf of National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), I write in support of SB 74, which would establish the Keep California Working Grant Program and award \$2.6 billion to small businesses and nonprofit organizations that have experienced economic hardship resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

COVID-19 and government-imposed business shut-downs have had a devastating impact on the viability of small businesses throughout the state. While many large retailers have recorded record profits because of the advantage of remaining operational, small businesses have suffered immeasurably because of government policy. Through no fault of their own, many small businesses are struggling to survive because of forced closures and limited operations. Through business surveys and reported news, it is anticipated that as many as one-third of all small businesses will not survive without more funding or a sudden change in government policy.

NFIB represents approximately 15,000 businesses in California. Small businesses are the driver of the American dream and create two-thirds of new jobs and employ nearly half of all private sector employees. Small business employs over 72 million workers in California.

The Keep California Working Act will prioritize small businesses in our communities. In order to save countless businesses, families and Californians from financial ruin, California must take immediate action to support the viability of small employers.

For these reasons, NFIB strongly supports SB 74.

Sincerely,

John Kabateck

California State Director
NFIB