

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

November 24, 2020

The Honorable Steven Mnuchin  
Secretary  
United States Department of the Treasury  
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Secretary Mnuchin,

We write to you today to express our concern about the Department of the Treasury's recent decision to treat Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) expenses as income, effectively surprising small businesses with a tax bill as punishment for taking government assistance. This comes with significant unintended consequences and could be taken by many that the federal government cannot be trusted to provide help without strings attached in a time of great need such as a global pandemic.

PPP loans were designed to provide immediate help to struggling small businesses during the early days of the COVID-19 outbreak. Business owners turned to these forgivable loans to avoid shutting their doors, and therefore keep their staffs employed, while the country considered options to safely respond to this public health threat.

Treasury's decision to treat eligible PPP expenses as income is especially problematic because small businesses throughout many industries continue to struggle to survive. Without sustainable revenue streams, especially as we enter the winter months, businesses could default on these tax payments or permanently close their doors.

For these reasons, we urge you to reverse your decision and to work with Congress to resolve this ongoing issue. This is also a belief held by the leaders of the Senate Finance Committee and the Chair of the House Ways and Means Committee, in addition to prominent members of Congress from both parties, which underscores the importance of finding a workable solution. We thank you for your consideration and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



John Curtis  
Member of Congress



Chip Roy  
Member of Congress