



Association for Career and Technical Education
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March 24, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Chairman
Committee on Finance
United States Senate
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Ron Wyden
Ranking Member
Committee on Finance
United States Senate
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Marco Rubio
Co-Chair
Small Business Liquidity Task Force
United States Senate
284 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Susan Collins
Co-Chair
Small Business Liquidity Task Force
United States Senate
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mike Crapo
Co-Chair
Small Business Liquidity Task Force
United States Senate
239 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Emergency Stimulus Funding to Support Nonprofit Associations

Dear Congressional Leaders:

I am contacting you on behalf of the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE). We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit membership organization that provides professional development for and advocacy on behalf of career and technical education (CTE) professionals. As a national nonprofit association, we also have a number of affiliated state associations that are all classified as nonprofits under various sections of IRS code, though predominantly as 501(c)(3) organizations.

ACTE and our state affiliates' impacts on local economies across the country mirror small businesses in many ways, and we urge Congress to support nonprofit associations in any emergency stimulus package and to consider the long-term impacts on these organizations as the crisis continues to unfold. Specifically, ACTE employs nearly 30 individuals in its national office, and many of our state associations have employees as

well. Moreover, the professional development conferences and opportunities that we offer not only inject millions of dollars into local economies when held, but also provide critical resources to CTE educators, administrators, guidance counselors and more. When we do ultimately defeat COVID-19 and begin to rebuild America's economy, a strong CTE system will be critical to upskilling and reskilling workers. ACTE is singularly focused on strengthening this sector of our education and workforce system, and ensuring ACTE can remain operational is imperative to meeting this goal.

Unfortunately, as with many other non-profit professional organizations, COVID-19 has already had drastic impacts on ACTE's finances. ACTE further anticipates significant budget shortfalls due to canceled revenue-generating conferences and a drop in dues-paying members. Should the past few weeks continue for an extended period of time, ACTE's more than 90 years of operations will be threatened.

We implore Congress to include relief to nonprofit organizations in any stimulus package, including by:

- Ensuring relief applies to tax-exempt nonprofit membership associations
- Expanding tax credits and deductions to additional nonprofit taxes, including the unrelated business income tax and payroll taxes
- Allow contributions and paid membership dues to 501(c)(3) organizations to be tax deductible for individuals, regardless of whether a taxpayer claims itemized deductions

Thank you for your consideration and continued support for the American economy, including the critical nonprofit sector, during this national emergency. If you have any questions, please contact Alisha Hyslop, ACTE's Director of Public Policy, at ahyslop@acteonline.org.

Sincerely,



LeAnn Wilson

Executive Director, Association for Career and Technical Education

CC:

Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House of Representatives
Honorable Kevin McCarthy, Minority Leader, House of Representatives
Honorable Richard Neal, Chairman, House Committee on Ways & Means
Honorable Kevin Brady, Ranking Member, House Committee on Ways & Means
Honorable Nita Lowey, Chairwoman, House Committee on Appropriations
Honorable Kay Granger, Ranking Member, House Committee on Appropriations
Honorable Richard Shelby, Chairman, Senate Committee on Appropriations
Honorable Patrick Leahy, Vice Chairman, Senate Committee on Appropriations
Honorable Maxine Waters, Chairwoman, House Committee on Financial Services
Honorable Patrick McHenry, Ranking Member, House Committee on Financial Services
Honorable Steven Mnuchin, Secretary, U.S. Department of Treasury