

April 6, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1236 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2468 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

**RE: Tech Associations Should be Eligible for Paycheck Protection Program**

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leaders McConnell, McCarthy and Schumer:

On behalf of the Technology Councils of North America (TECNA), we strongly urge Congress to act swiftly to allow trade and membership associations to access the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) under the CARES Act. We believe this can be done in a technical correction bill or through Administrative rule-making.

TECNA is grateful to Congress and the Administration for current CARES Act provisions that allow 501(c)(6) organizations to access certain aid through an employee retention tax credit (Section 2301) and Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL; Section 1110). But providing our members access to the PPP is critical.

TECNA member associations are active in 35 states and serve over 20,000 tech firms and hundreds of thousands of employees across the U.S. Technology councils are critical drivers of job creation and economic growth in states and regions throughout the U.S. Our members are the force behind supporting growth companies, entrepreneurs, start-ups, access to capital and establishing hubs for innovation. TECNA members offer a wide range of workforce development programs that provide key training and certifications to tech industry employees. Our members also have dynamic programs to develop the talent pipeline in elementary, secondary and higher education systems.

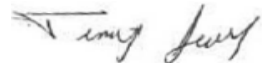
With nearly 12 million workers, tech employment accounts for nearly 8 percent of the nation's work force. The median tech occupation wage is over \$80,000, 92 percent higher than the median national wage for all occupations. Exports of U.S. tech industry products is estimated at \$340 billion, a critical indicator of economic strength. Overall, the tech sector has an estimated direct economic impact of \$1.8 trillion, or about 10 percent of the total U.S. economy, making it a critical industry. And as we navigate through this devastating pandemic, technology innovation will be a key part of the solution.

Now, more than ever, the tech industry is relying on our member associations for their survival. Our members have already incurred financial losses due to cancelled programs and events and anticipate further losses in revenues, as the tech industry addresses their own economically precarious circumstances.

We urge that you take immediate action to allow all 501(c)(6) organizations access to the Payment Protection Program.

Thank you in advance for supporting this urgent request. I can be reached at [tjemal@tecna.org](mailto:tjemal@tecna.org) or 949-636-8946 to answer any questions you or your staff may have.

Sincerely,



Timothy Jemal  
Executive Director

Signatories listed below carbon copy line.

CC:

The Honorable Steven Mnuchin  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Treasury  
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20220

The Honorable Jovita Carranza  
Administrator  
Small Business Administration  
409 3rd Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20416

### Signatories

#### **Alabama**

Tech Birmingham

#### **Arizona**

Arizona Technology Council (AZTC)

#### **California**

California Technology Council (CTC)

Tech San Diego

#### **Colorado**

Colorado Technology Association (CTA)

#### **Connecticut**

Connecticut Technology Council (CTC)

#### **Florida**

Florida Technology Council

Palm Beach Tech Association

Tamp Bay Tech

TechLauderdale

#### **Georgia**

Technology Association of Georgia (TAG)

Computer Measurement Group (CMG)

#### **Idaho**

Idaho Tech Council (ITC)

#### **Illinois**

Illinois Technology Association (ITA)

1871

#### **Indiana**

Indiana Technology & Innovation Association

TechPoint

#### **Iowa**

Technology Association of Iowa (TAI)

#### **Kansas**

FlagshipKansas.Tech

KC Tech Council

#### **Kentucky**

Technology Association of Louisville Kentucky  
(TALK)

#### **Missouri**

Mid-America Technology Alliance

KC Tech Council

#### **Massachusetts**

Massachusetts Technology Leadership Council  
(MassTLC)

#### **Maryland**

Maryland Tech Council (MTC)

#### **Minnesota**

Minnesota High Tech Association (MHTA)

#### **Montana**

Montana High-Tech Business Alliance

**New Hampshire**

NH Tech Alliance

**New Jersey**

New Jersey Tech Council (NJTC)

**New York**

New York Tech Alliance

Tech Rochester

**Nevada**

Nevada Technology Association

**New Mexico**

New Mexico Technology Council (NMTC)

**North Carolina**

North Carolina Technology Association (NC  
TECH)

**North Dakota**

Technology Council of North Dakota

**Ohio**

GCP Tech

Ohio IT Association

**Oregon**

Technology Association of Oregon (TAO)

**Pennsylvania**

Philadelphia Alliance for Capital and  
Technologies (PACT)

Pittsburgh Technology Council

Tech Council of Central Pennsylvania

**Rhode Island**

Tech Collective

**South Carolina**

Tech Association of South Carolina

**Tennessee**

Chattanooga Technology Council

Greater Nashville Technology Council

Greater Memphis IT Council

Knoxville Technology Council

**Texas**

Tech Titans

**Utah**

Utah Technology Council

**Virginia**

Northern Virginia Technology Council

Roanoake-Blacksburg Technology Council

**Washington**

Washington Technology Industry Association  
(WTIA)

**Wisconsin**

Wisconsin Technology Council (WTC)