



February 23rd, 2021

Christopher Pineda
Ellicott City Partnership
8321 Main Street
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Re: HB1014 – Small Business COVID-19 Relief Act of 2021

Chairwoman Kaiser, Vice Chair Washington, and members of the House Ways and Means Committee:

On behalf of the Ellicott City Partnership and the over 100 businesses that we represent in our Maryland Main Street community, we voice our support of House Bill 1014 - the Small Business COVID-19 Relief Act of 2021.

This program, after passage of this bill, would be of great interest to our small businesses. Many of our small businesses have been heavily impacted by the disruption the pandemic has created and have seen a reduction in their revenues. We believe that the Small Business COVID-19 Relief Act of 2021 will ensure economic support for our small businesses. Our businesses will be able to take advantage of loan opportunities to finance their expenditures and be able to apply for grants administered by the local government to assist them with the disruption caused by the pandemic.

These financial opportunities will help in our Maryland Main Street communities, who are small Mom & Pop shops with limited employees, to continue in our district. We understand that this directly ties into the small business community by focusing on the smaller entrepreneurs and limiting the cap to those with upwards to 50 employees.

We are respectfully requesting a favorable report from the committee to ensure that our businesses are supported throughout our recovery from the pandemic, and that they're able to use this opportunity to remain open and successful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Chris Pineda', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Christopher Pineda, MBA
Executive Director
Ellicott City Partnership