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To Whom It May Concern

This is to inform the House Economic Matters Committee to waive the approximately \$300 annual filing fee charged to small business owners. This is a large fee that places a burden on small business owners, particularly minority business owners who are already economically disadvantaged and marginalized, and face stiff competition from large powerful corporations. The fee further creates an economic divide between struggling minorities and those with privilege, and makes it more difficult to climb the socioeconomic ladder and escape the detriments of poverty. Additionally, the ramifications of the COVID 19 pandemic on small businesses make it more likely that their revenues and net income are lower than years before, further placing a burden on business owners.

Therefore, I urge the House Economic Matters Committee to waive the annual filing fee and provide relief to already struggling business owners.

Thank you.

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