



NATIONAL GRANGE

1616 H ST. NW, WASHINGTON, DC 20006 | PHONE (202) 628-3507 | FAX (202) 347-1091

WWW.NATIONALGRANGE.ORG | INFO@NATIONALGRANGE.ORG

American Values. Hometown Roots.

Extend Paycheck Protection (PPP) to 501(c)5 Ag Organizations

February 10, 2021

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Republican Leader
United States Senate

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
United State House of Representatives

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Republican Leader
United State House of Representatives

The Honorable Ben Cardin
Chairman
Senate Committee on Small Business
& Entrepreneurship

The Honorable Marco Rubio
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Small Business
& Entrepreneurship

The Honorable Nydia Velazquez
Chairwoman
House Committee on Small Business

The Honorable Blaine Luetkemeyer
Ranking Member
House Committee on Small Business

Dear Senator Schumer, Senator McConnell, Representative Pelosi, Representative McCarthy, Senator Cardin, Senator Rubio, Representative Velazquez, and Representative Luetkemeyer:

On behalf of millions of Americans who earn their livelihoods in the agricultural and rural economy - especially small business - we appreciate Congress providing historic relief measures during the health and economic crisis created by the COVID-19 pandemic. In particular, we are pleased that Congress has not only renewed, but continues to refine and improve the landmark Paycheck Protection Program (PPP).

There are thousands of not-for-profit groups formed as a (4) (5) or (6) that support or promote critical essential professions, industries, small businesses, American crafts and workers. Many of these are important ag-focused, non-profit groups that serve as key resources for farming best practices, market data, educational outreach, agricultural education, Agri-marketing, farm and ranch life, youth in agriculture, rural life, and most urgently, pandemic-related assistance. Without the benefit of 501(c)5 agricultural organizations, a diverse group of employers including family farms, horse breeding operations, and state and county fairs, just to name a few examples, will lose an important resource for tools necessary to move beyond the pandemic and resume their roles as top job creators.

We are sure you would concur that the fabric of America is constructed of many different kinds of endeavors and organizations whose employees and volunteers serve our economy and communities. By extending emergency loan eligibility to an enlarged group of not-for-profits, Congress will provide a necessary tool for the SBA to accomplish congressional objectives pursuant to the largest economic rescue package in American history. In short, giving 501(c)5 not-for-profit organizations the means to remain in operation during the crisis will help preserve jobs and expedite delivery of pandemic-related information to rural employers and workers.

We support expanding eligibility of PPP to ensure to ensure that it reaches underserved communities. As Congress considers budget reconciliation legislation, we urge members to support inclusion of PPP eligibility to 501(c)5 agricultural not-for-profit organizations. By ensuring agricultural groups are eligible to participate the historic job rescue program, Congress will pave the way for rural America to reverse the job losses inflicted by COVID-19. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

American Association of Equine Practitioners
American Farm Bureau Federation
American Horse Council
League of Agricultural and Equine Centers
International Association of Fairs and Expositions
National Dairy Herd Information Association
National Renderers Association
Outdoor Amusement Business Association
The National Grange