



February 10, 2021

The Honorable Richard Roth
 Chair, Senate Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development
 State Capitol, Room 2053
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 74 (Borgeas and Caballero): Keep California Working Act – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Roth:

On behalf of the above business organizations in the Inland Empire, we write to express our support for SB 74, the Keep California Working Act, which would invest \$2.6 billion in grants to help small businesses and non-profits that have sustained financial losses resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

COVID-19 has had a significant impact on every aspect of our lives. Many small businesses are struggling to survive and the demand for services provided by nonprofits has increased while their sources of funding have decreased.

Small businesses play a major role in California’s three trillion dollar economy, employing 35.8% of California’s workforce. A recent report indicated that 35% of small business would not survive past January of 2021 without more funding and as of November, small business revenue was down

33%. In the Inland Empire, a study by the University of California Riverside showed that almost 50% of small businesses reported a large negative effect from the COVID-19 pandemic. In light of the recent increases in COVID-19 cases and new stay at home orders, revenue will likely continue to decrease.

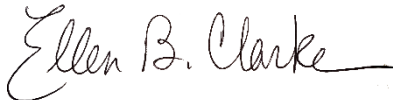
At a time when small businesses throughout the state are being devastated by the overwhelming impacts of COVID-19, the Legislature should prioritize the health and safety of our communities, while also supporting a responsible and sustainable way to recover our economy. The Keep California Working Act will relieve some of the financial burden that small businesses and non-profits have been facing and help save these important parts of our communities.

For these reasons above and others, we urge your support of SB 74. If you have any questions or would like to discuss our position in greater detail, please contact Luis Portillo at 909-944-2201 or by email at lportillo@ieep.com. Thank you.

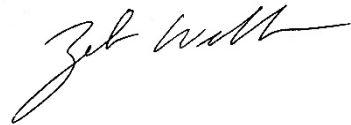
Sincerely,



Bette Rader
Beaumont Chamber of Commerce



Ellen B. Clarke
Big Bear Valley Chamber of
Commerce



Zeb Welborn
Chino Valley Chamber of
Commerce



Bobby Spiegel
Corona Chamber of Commerce



Andrea De Leon
Fontana Chamber of Commerce



Joshua Bonner
Greater Coachella Valley Chamber
of Commerce



Mark Creffield
Greater High Desert Chamber of
Commerce



Peggi Hazlett
Greater Ontario Business Council



Cyndi Lemke
Hemet San Jacinto Chamber of
Commerce



Chris Nielsen
Highland Chamber of Commerce



Paul Granillo
Inland Empire Economic Partnership



Oscar Valdepeña
Moreno Valley Chamber of
Commerce



Patrick Ellis
Murrieta/Wildomar Chamber of
Commerce



Ignacio Valdivia
Perris Valley Chamber of Commerce



Monique Manzanares
Pomona Chamber of Commerce



Robert Hufnagel
Rancho Cucamonga Chamber of
Commerce



Jan Hudson
Redlands Chamber of Commerce



Emily Falappino
Temecula Valley Chamber of
Commerce



Peggy Robertson
Upland Chamber of Commerce

Cc: Senator Andreas Borgeas
Senator Anna Caballero