

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 14, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
S-230 Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
S-221 Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader McConnell and Minority Leader Schumer:

We applaud your bipartisan leadership and cooperation in responding to the unprecedented health and economic crisis that resulted from the COVID-19 pandemic. In that spirit, we write to urge the consideration of statutory changes to significantly reduce red tape, paperwork, and other regulatory requirements as an important step to respond to COVID-19 in general, and economic recovery in particular.

Since the emergence of COVID-19, there have been massive changes around the world to cope with the pandemic. Domestically, we have seen federal, state, and local governments struggle to protect at-risk populations through social distancing, mandatory business closures, and various shelter-in-place strategies. These measures do appear to help “flatten the curve” of COVID-19 infections, but they are taking a devastating toll on the economy, jobs, and people’s lives.


Since March 5, 2020, the Senate has passed four packages of legislation to respond to this extraordinary health and economic disaster. Moving forward, we must include statutory changes that permit regulatory relief for businesses small and large across every sector of the economy.

Regulatory reform, whether through paperwork reduction or removing outmoded compliance requirements, is the most efficient means of promoting economic recovery. This approach avoids the pitfalls of waste, fraud, and abuse that always accompany increased government spending. In contrast to unsustainable increases in federal spending, the easing of regulatory burdens – estimated to cost businesses as much as \$1.9 trillion – will have broader macroeconomic effects by promoting competition and private investment.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We stand ready to work with you to adopt commonsense regulatory relief in an effort to promote long-term economic recovery following the COVID-19 healthcare crisis.

Sincerely,


Marsha Blackburn
United States Senator


Charles E. Grassley
United States Senator



Kelly Loeffler
United States Senator



Ted Cruz
United States Senator



Steve Daines
United States Senator



David A. Perdue
United States Senator



Joni K. Ernst
United States Senator



Pat Toomey
United States Senator



Rick Scott
United States Senator



Mike Braun
United States Senator



Marco Rubio
United States Senator



Rand Paul, M.D.
United States Senator



Thom Tillis
United States Senator



Kevin Cramer
United States Senator



Jerry Moran
United States Senator



M. Michael Rounds
United States Senator



John Hoeven
United States Senator



Deb Fischer
United States Senator



Mike Crapo
United States Senator



James E. Risch
United States Senator



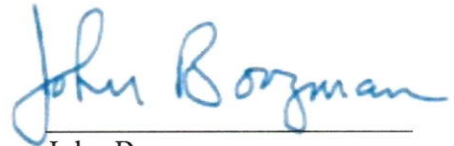
Michael B. Enzi
United States Senator



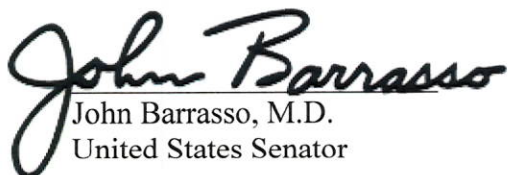
Michael S. Lee
United States Senator



James M. Inhofe
United States Senator



John Boozman
United States Senator



John Barrasso, M.D.
United States Senator



Pat Roberts
United States Senator



Dan Sullivan
United States Senator



Ben Sasse
United States Senator