

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6040

To amend the Small Business Act to ensure small businesses affected by the onset of communicable diseases are eligible for disaster relief.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 28, 2020

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, and Ms. MENG) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business

A BILL

To amend the Small Business Act to ensure small businesses affected by the onset of communicable diseases are eligible for disaster relief.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Small Business Relief
5 From Communicable Disease Induced Economic Hardship
6 Act of 2020”.

1 **SEC. 2. ECONOMIC INJURY LOANS FOR COMMUNICABLE**
2 **DISEASES.**

3 (a) DEFINITION OF A DISASTER.—Section 3(k)(2) of
4 the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632(k)(2)) is amend-
5 ed—

6 (1) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and” at
7 the end;

8 (2) in subparagraph (C), striking the period
9 and inserting “; and”; and

10 (3) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(D) a communicable disease for which the
12 Federal Government has issued a travel alert or
13 travel warning.”.

14 (b) TERMS.—Section 7(b)(2) of the Small Business
15 Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)(2)) is amended—

16 (1) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period
17 at the end and inserting “; or”;

18 (2) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the fol-
19 lowing:

20 “(E) a disaster described under section
21 3(k)(2)(D) for which the Federal Government
22 has issued a public health emergency.”; and

23 (3) by adding at the end the following: “A loan
24 made pursuant to a disaster described under sub-
25 paragraph (E) shall not require the payment of in-
26 terest.”.

1 (c) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by this
2 section shall apply to a communicable disease—

3 (1) for which the Federal Government issues a
4 travel alert or travel warning before, on, or after the
5 date of enactment of this Act; and

6 (2) the effects of which are experienced on or
7 after the date of enactment of this Act.

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