

NEWS RELEASE

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Re: Lubbock Chamber Applauds Introduction of Bipartisan Recovery Fund Legislation to Support American Businesses

LUBBOCK, Texas – The Lubbock Chamber of Commerce today applauded introduction of the [Small Business Comeback Act](#). The legislation will create federal grants to provide relief for businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

“As a member of Save Small Business Coalition (SSBC) and America’s Recovery Fund Coalition (ARFC), the Lubbock Chamber is proud to support this effort, which will create a Recovery Fund and give American businesses much-needed stability as they continue to navigate the ongoing pandemic. We thank Representatives Filemon Vela (D-TX-34) and Lance Gooden (R-TX-05) for working together to bring forth this bill,” said Eddie McBride, Lubbock Chamber President and CEO.

“The Lubbock Chamber represents small businesses throughout Lubbock, each of which has their own unique story and deserves an equally tailored federal solution to ensure their doors remain open,” said Gabe Vitela, Lubbock Chamber of Commerce Chairman. “The Small Business Comeback Act will provide the funding relief our members need as they navigate a drastically altered business landscape.”

Through a direct grant program with strong oversight and anti-corruption guardrails, the Small Business Comeback Act will allow businesses to retain and rehire employees, continue to provide benefits including health care, pay rent, local, and state taxes, and meet certain debt obligations. This will allow businesses to weather the pandemic, keep American workers employed, and preserve the health and livelihoods of communities across the United States, regardless of business structure or employment type.

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The Lubbock Chamber of Commerce represents almost 1,700 businesses and over 79,000 employees on the South Plains which accounts for over \$2 billion in annual household earnings in Lubbock and West Texas. Since 1913 the Chamber, as a catalyst for business growth; a convener of leaders and influencers; and a champion for a stronger community, has served as a unified voice of business by actively advocating for a pro-jobs, pro-growth, pro-business climate.