

Template to reach your U.S. Representative or U.S. Senator

Dear Senator/Congressman XXX,

The COVID-19 pandemic threatens the entire United States hospitality sector, which employs 4.7 million people. This crisis has presented an unprecedented challenge for the hotel industry that is arguably greater than 9/11 and the 2008 recession combined.

As a hotelier, I am experiencing firsthand the crippling impact the coronavirus is having on our properties and workforce, and on the communities in which we serve. The situation is worsening by the day. Meetings and events have been cancelled, occupancies continue to plummet and hotels across the country are beginning to close and furlough staff.

The loss in demand has created a liquidity crisis across hotel ownership groups. With more aggressive social distancing measures now in place, we expect the vast majority of U.S. hotels to close in the coming days and weeks. The hotel industry is currently estimating a loss of nearly 4 million jobs in 2020 which equates to \$180 billion in wages and a \$300 billion hit to the GDP.

We need Congress to provide \$150 billion in immediate, direct relief to protect jobs and ensure that hotel operators like myself can meet our payroll and mortgage obligations. It is critical the next coronavirus stimulus package includes an Employee Relief Fund with significant resources that can be allocated quickly for the sole purpose of retaining and rehiring hotel employees. Additionally, Congress must ensure that hotel owners have immediate access to capital to make their payroll and mortgage payments.

I urge you to take immediate action to protect the hard-working hotel employees and the U.S. lodging industry.

Sincerely,
XXX