

From: [Sarah Oates](#)
To: sharon.lane@anchorageak.gov; william.falsey@anchorageak.gov
Subject: FW: Disaster Relief Needed for Alaska Hospitality and Employees
Date: Monday, March 16, 2020 10:01:00 PM
Importance: High

Mayor Berkowitz and Mr. Falsey:

First, I will briefly note that I was very disturbed to first hear about EO-01 through a press release. To my knowledge, there were no advance discussions had about alternate options with hospitality industry leaders nor advance notices provided to our industry of the forthcoming executive order. As the second largest industry in the state, I am appalled at the Municipality's complete lack of our inclusion or partnership to date.

As the executive of the statewide hospitality industry association, I have been inundated with calls, texts, emails, and social media contacts from terrified business owners and their employees, and I do not have answers for them. I have been working around the clock to explore options for relief and stimulus packages, and to attempt to mitigate impacts to the industry. Without question, there will be businesses who will not survive a two-week closure. There are tens of thousands of employees who will be without pay or benefits, many of whom will undoubtedly suffer hardships.

I watched your statements during tonight's press conference, and I hope that you are genuinely putting forward significant efforts to help our businesses. Yes, much is dependent upon assistance from state and federal officials and entities. However, it was your decision to shut these businesses down, and I need to be able to reassure the industry that you are also doing everything within your power to protect their livelihoods, not just their health.

Moving forward, I ask that you please keep our organization in the loop. My direct cell numbers are 632-6433 and 229-9972, and I receive emails to this address on my cell. At this point, our organization has no choice but to direct people to contact your office to obtain information about what you are doing to help them survive. My hope is that this will open up a line of communication between our offices that will enable me to provide prompt, accurate information to our shared constituents while minimizing the amount of correspondence that your team is currently having to respond to from the industry. We share many common goals and concerns, and I sincerely hope that we can work together to support Anchorage's hospitality industry during throughout and well after this pandemic.

Below is an email that I sent earlier today to Gov. Dunleavy requesting him to also take steps to help our industry.

Please contact me with any questions, concerns, and information or bulletins that would be helpful or important for the industry.

Respectfully,

Sarah Daulton Oates

President & CEO, Alaska CHARR

Office: 907.274.8133

Cell: 907.229.9972

www.alaskacharr.com



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

From: Sarah Oates

Sent: Monday, March 16, 2020 1:46 PM

To: ben.stevens@alaska.gov

Cc: Kim A. Hutchinson <alaskalobbyist@gmail.com>

Subject: Disaster Relief Needed for Alaska Hospitality and Employees

Importance: High

Good afternoon, Mr. Stevens:

In response to Mayor Berkowitz's Executive Order EO-01 this morning, along with potential forthcoming orders from other communities and/or the federal government, I am urgently requesting that the governor's office take immediate steps to help Alaska's hospitality industry. Specifically, I am hoping and respectfully requesting that Gov. Dunleavy's team will do the following:

- Work to submit the necessary information to qualify the state for the U.S. Small Business Administration's Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program, which would enable small businesses impacted by COVID-19 to apply for low-interest loans up to \$2MM.
- Consider issuing an executive order that would expand flexibility for Alaskans to receive unemployment benefits during Alaska's emergency declaration period, and to waive the waiting period for receive benefits. This should be available to eligible individuals who are requested by a medical professional, local health authority, or employer to be isolated or quarantined as a consequence of COVID-19, even if they are not actually diagnosed with COVID-19.
- Consider issuing an executive order that would allow businesses to apply for extremely low or zero-interest loans from the State of Alaska. With the mandated closures and/or drastically decreased business, business owners will be unable to pay bills. I have had many owners tell me in the last 48 hours that they would use all available reserves to cover payroll rather than other bills. The workforce is vital to the success of the hospitality industry, and business owners want to be able to pay their employees during this time to ensure that the workforce will remain once this has passed.
- Consider any other available options that will help prevent serious and irreparable harm to Alaska businesses and employees.

Please contact me as soon as possible to discuss possible options that could help save an industry that is vital to Alaska, Alaskans, and our economy. My direct numbers are 907-229-9972 or 907-632-6433.

Thank you for your service and assistance during these trying times.

Very respectfully,

Sarah Daulton Oates

President & CEO, Alaska CHARR

Office: 907.274.8133

Cell: 907.229.9972

www.alaskacharr.com



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.