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Subject: Disaster Relief Needed for Alaska Hospitality and Employees
Date: Monday, March 16, 2020 1:45:00 PM
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

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