

Committee members,

I am reaching out as a resident, Small business owner, healthcare worker, and patron of Portland, Oregon. I am eager to hear a better relief effort than asking small businesses to go into more debt in an attempt to add to their communities. SBS loans are no relief at all. They are a tourniquet on the economy leading to the eventual death of small business around the state and country.

So far the self-employed have no relief options that would provide support. Only elongate their struggle toward their eventual end while this situation is worked out at the legislative level. The lack of initiative to declare a disaster has put every small business in a compromised position.

You have given the orders to shut down too late and backpedalled in other areas. The small business community has responded with shut downs and social distancing of their own accord because leadership is lacking from the top down. These people have stepped up. It is time to follow suit with the people.

How do these people (myself included) take care of financial obligations when our incomes have been striped from us?

The people are drowning who bring money to your institutions. No life line or support has been issued to the people. SBA loans are not a lifeline. They are a smaller anchor.

What is to be done from the top so that the foundations do not crumble?

Respectfully,
Dr. David Rief DC.