

Dear Committee Members,

Thank you for your hard work and dedication to solutions during this scary and precarious time.

I am writing to you today to urge you to consider grants, as opposed to loans, for small businesses forced to close because of the COVID19 pandemic.

I opened Mad Hanna, a small neighborhood bar in 2013. At that time I had a business partner who had the capital to fund and support us as we got started. I have worked very hard to create a business that is a thoughtful and caring intentional community. I was able to buy out my former partner in 2017 and I have never needed to take a loan. On Monday, before the governor ordered the closure of all bars and restaurants, while only faced with the *possibility* of closure, I applied for a business loan. If I am approved for this loan, it will absolutely help keep my business above water until we are able to re-open.

Repaying this loan will take a long time and a lot of effort. I have no revenue coming in to me right now. I can't apply for unemployment. I have less than no idea how long it will take for the service industry to rebound. We are definitely closed for four weeks. What if that stretches to eight? Or 16? How do I plan for repaying the loan I've already applied for if I have no idea how or when its going to be safe for the public to be in public again? I need a guarantee that the successful business I have been operating for seven years will survive after this. I have 19 year old twin boys who are autistic. I have employees with children and ailing parents. I have patrons who need Mad Hanna and treat it like their second home and community center. We've raised money for the environment, the LGBTQ community, for immigrants and for education. Mad Hanna has always prioritized caring for our community and we want so badly to keep helping. Please help us continue to support our communities.

I don't need another loan, this industry does not need loans. It needs a bail-out.

Please help us by approving grants for small businesses affected by the coronavirus.

Thank you,
Elizabeth Hanna

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MAD HANNA

we got your back

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