**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2020 4:18 PM
**Subject:** [BULK] US Chamber PPP & Pandemic Update

Dear Eastern Chamber Friends –

I hope that all of you had a great and restful July 4th break.  As you settle back in, I wanted to touch base to update you on a few developments from the past week related to the ongoing pandemic.

-          **PPP Loan Application Extension** – Last week, legislation was passed and signed into law extending the deadline to apply for Paycheck Protection Program loans to August 8, 2020.  Unfortunately, this change only extended the deadline to apply for a loan, and it did not include an expansion of the program to include all 501(c) non-profits.  That change will likely have to be made in the more expansive Phase Four legislation we expect by the end of the month.  Nevertheless, roughly $125 billion in funding remains in the PPP.  Therefore, please encourage any of you members who need assistance and have not yet obtained a loan to speak with a bank ASAP.

-          **Coalition Letter re: Uniform Protective Mask Guidance** – In light of growing confusion around the varying guidance on the wearing of protective masks and face coverings, a coalition of national business groups, including the U.S. Chamber, sent a letter asking that the White House Coronavirus Task Force and the National Governors Association work together to develop national standards and guidance (e.g. metrics, triggers, thresholds).  This letter is not asking for a national mandate.  Rather, it is urging the creation of uniform guidance to be implemented and enforced at the local and state level.  [Click here to read and download the letter.](https://www.uschamber.com/letters-congress/joint-letter-business-leaders-call-president-vp-and-nga-lead-face-covering-concerns)

Finally, we will be resuming our weekly coronavirus update calls this Friday (7/10) at 4:00 pm ET.  [Click here to register to join the call.](https://www.conferenceplus.com/confcenter/PinCode/Pin_Code.aspx?100623&o=UQAeRJUCsbAOyn&j=27750168&sfmc_sub=1182761590&l=3193445_HTML&u=311332687&mid=524000623&jb=1&utm_medium=Email&utm_source=SFMC&utm_campaign=&utm_content=)

As always, please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Steve and Nick