



April 17, 2020

The Honorable Marco Rubio  
284 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-0909

Dear Senator Rubio:

Our trade association represents Florida's world-renowned tourist attractions. We appreciate the relief provided by the CARES Act, and respectfully request your consideration in addressing several issues to allow our industry the capability to stabilize and significantly contribute to Florida's economy.

The Small Business Administration Loans have been a great success - but more is needed. Please pass more funding for the Paycheck Protection Program immediately to avoid an unnecessary delay in getting needed support for our small businesses.

As Congress considers the next phase of stimulus COVID-19 related stimulus funding, please consider the following CARES Act issues that need clarification through interpretation and/or additional legislation to support the attractions industry:

- Small Business Administration Loans
  - Include businesses with the North American Industry Classification System code beginning with 71 (the code for amusement parks and attractions) in the Paycheck Protection Program waiver program for amusement parks and attractions that have less than 500 employees at a single location, but more than 500 company-wide.
  - Change the CARES Act definition of "small business", which is "a business with 500 or fewer employees" to include amusement parks and attractions that may have over 500 employees at a given time, but a substantial percentage of their employees are part-time, seasonal or temporary employees. The current definition does not accurately reflect the size for these businesses. Counting every single employee distorts their actual size. Eligibility should be based on full-time equivalents to accurately reflect the size of attraction industry businesses.

- Increase loan forgiveness flexibility in the Paycheck Protection Program for seasonal businesses both in terms of how funds can be used and the timeline for usage. The program needs to be expanded to December 31, 2020 and businesses should have 20 weeks after the loan commences to qualify for forgiveness.
- Emergency Stabilization Fund
  - Amusement parks and attractions that have been severely impacted need to be included in the Emergency Stabilization Fund. This program needs to be implemented quickly to help businesses in dire need now.
  - Expedient creation of a fund for mid-sized businesses for the attractions industry. For purposes of mid-sized business loan eligibility, the definition of employee should include full time and salaried employees.
  - Requirements for employee retention should focus on permanent employees and employers should not be penalized if employees opt not to return to the company.
  - Should state health guidelines prevent amusement parks and attractions from fully opening, additional grants and/or loans with deferral of repayment terms should be made available to enable facilities to open, maintain employees and sustain businesses until facilities can open at full capacity.
- Provide COVID-19 liability protection for businesses that have followed best practices to protect guests and workers against COVID-related illness.

Thank you for your consideration and service to the Sunshine State during these changing days.

Sincerely,



**Bill Lupfer**  
*President/CEO*  
Florida Attractions Association