

1801 Watermark Dr., Suite 375 Columbus, OH 43215

July 13, 2020

The Honorable Troy Balderson 1221 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC, 20515-3512

The Honorable Joyce Beatty 2303 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC, 20515-3503

The Honorable Steve Chabot 2408 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC, 20515-3501

The Honorable Warren Davidson 1107 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC, 20515-3508

The Honorable Marcia L. Fudge 2344 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC, 20515-3511

The Honorable Bob Gibbs 2446 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC, 20515-3507

The Honorable Anthony Gonzalez 1023 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC, 20515-3516

The Honorable Bill Johnson 2336 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC, 20515-3506 The Honorable Jim Jordan 2056 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC, 20515-3504

The Honorable David P. Joyce 1124 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC, 20515-3514

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur 2186 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC, 20515-3509

The Honorable Robert E. Latta 2467 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC, 20515-3505

The Honorable Tim Ryan 1126 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC, 20515-3513

The Honorable Steve Stivers 2234 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC, 20515-3515

The Honorable Michael R. Turner 2082 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC, 20515-3510

The Honorable Brad R. Wenstrup 2419 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC, 20515-3502

Dear Ohio Representatives:

On behalf of the Ohio Travel Association and the Ohio Hotel & Lodging Association, representing thousands of businesses in your state, we commend and appreciate the bipartisan efforts to pass the CARES Act and additional relief bills to protect American livelihoods and businesses. We write to express our belief that further, temporary COVID-19 business liability protections will be necessary to fully restart our economy and put Americans back to work.

Travel industry businesses across Ohio closed in the interest of public health, with small travel businesses bearing the brunt of the economic losses; these businesses are now operating or reopening responsibly following state guidelines. Every day, we hear from businesses regarding the need for COVID-19 business liability protections, as these businesses are following state guidelines (and beyond) to keep their employees and guests safe.

The travel industry is one of the hardest-hit industries in the economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic. Before the public health crisis, \$1.1 trillion in traveler spending in the U.S. generated a total economic impact of \$2.6 trillion and supported a total of 15.8 million American jobs. So far this year, declines in travel have cost our economy 8 million jobs, and we are on track to lose a half trillion dollars in travel spending by the end of this year.

In Ohio, we have experienced a 6.8 billion loss thus far due to reduced traveler spending, and our job losses surpass all other industries in the state, as we have a 44% unemployment rate – 54% unemployment of those working in businesses focused on arts, recreation and entertainment.

We understand the travel industry's economic recovery is contingent on the implementation of proper health and safety practices. Ohio travel economy businesses have followed the Ohio Responsible Restart Guidelines and are implementing the five protocols – employee health assessment, hand washing, sanitization, physical distancing and facial coverings.

If businesses take the necessary steps to protect the health of guests and employees, there must be protections in place to allow them to operate with confidence. These protections should be temporary to protect responsible businesses from frivolous lawsuits during this pandemic and through a period of the economic recovery. Most important, these measures must be put in place immediately so businesses can do business with confidence and Ohio's travel economy can continue its recovery.

We thank you for all that you are doing to support Ohio's travel economy, its workforce and America's overall recovery efforts.

Respectfully,

1st Choice Cabin Rentals 21c Museum Hotel, Cincinnati 5145 Corporation DBA Hampton Inn Aarav Hospitality LLC Aarya Hospitalty ABC Company AC Hotel by Marriott @ Liberty Center Aimbridge Hospitality Akron/Summit Convention & Visitors Bureau Aloft Cleveland Downtown Among The Trees Lodging

Anchor Recreations, Incorporated **AP** Consulting Aryanrhea Inc Ash Management Corp. Ashtabula County Visitors Bureau BrewDog Brewing Company, LLC Capitol Square Hotel LLC Carlisle Inn Sugarcreek Cedar Fair Century Hotel Group Ceres Enterprises LLC **Cherry Ridge Retreat** Cincinnati Marriott NE Cincinnati Marriott North Cincinnati Netherland Hotel, LLC Clermont County Convention & Visitors Bureau Cleveland CBD Hotel LLC Cleveland East Hotel LLC DBA Cleveland Marriott East **Columbus Hospitality Management Columbus Hospitality Management** Columbus State Community College Comfort Inn Concord Buckeye Hotel LLC **Concord Hospitality** Convention & Visitors Bureau of Greater Cleveland dba Destination Cleveland Courtyard by Marriott Dayton - University of Dayton Courtyard by Marriott Downtown Akron **Courtyard Dublin** Crowne Plaza Dayton Days Inn Dayton/Montgomery County Convention & Visitors Bureau, Inc. **Destination Grandview Destination Mansfield-Richland County** Dora Hospitality LLC Doubletree By Hilton, The Tudor Arms Eldora Speedway, Inc. **Embassy Suites Akron Canton Airport** Fagnilli Enterprises, dba The Lakehouse Inn Fairborn Hotel and Inn Fairfield Inn & Suites Dublin First Hospitality Group, Inc. Fitzgerald's Irish Bed & Breakfast, LLC Gallia County Convention and Visitors Bureau German Village Guest House

Gervasi 1700 LLC Gervasi 1700 LLC dba Gervasi Vineyard **GHM PROPERTIES** Glen's Surplus Sales, Inc Great Lakes Publishing Co Greater Columbus Convention Center Greater Springfield Convention & Visitors Bureau Greene County Convention & Visitors Bureau Grove City Area Convention and Visitors Bureau Halvo Kulinary Inc. Hampton Inn & Suites - Canfield Hampton Inn & Suites Cincinnati - Mason Hampton Inn & Suites Cincinnati Liberty Township Hampton Inn West Columbus Hampton Inn Youngstown-West I-80 Hancock Historical Museum Association Harrison House Bed & Breakfast Hayes Presidential Center Hideaway B&B Inn LLC dba HideawayInn Hilton Cleveland Downtown Hilton Columbus Downtown Hilton Garden Inn Cleveland Downtown Hocking Hills Tourism Association Holiday Inn Express Blue Ash, Ohio Holiday Inn Express Hotel and Suites Homewood Suites by Hilton Columbus-Dublin Hospitality Management Hotel Indigo Hotel Indigo Beachwood Hotel Leveque Hotel LeVeque Autograph Collection Hotel LeVeque, LLC HSM Hospitality Management Company Hyatt Regency Cincinnati Hyatt Regency Cleveland Hyatt Regency Columbus Indian Bear Lodge Indus Hotels Indus Hotels, LLC InnVite Hospitality LLC Intercontinental Hotels Group Jane's Travel Store Jet Wed LLC Jetha Group

JKL Tours LLC Key Hotel and Property Management Key Hotel and Property Management Kimpton Schofield Hotel L&M Hospitality LLC Lake Erie Shores and Islands Lexington Management Corp LLV Group Ltd dba Motel 6 Huron & Milan Ohio LMN Dev SPE, LLC Logan County Visitors Bureau Longwoods International Marietta, Washington County CVB Marriott & Residence Inn Columbus University Area Marriott at the University of Dayton Marshall Hotels & Resorts Mehul Inc Melissa Prokay Memphis Amusement Co MHD Corp Miller Boat Line, Inc. Motel6Lima Motel6Lima National Historic Inns, inc., dba The Inn At Brandywine Falls Newgen Worldwide NRI Equity Land Investment, LLC dba Courtyard by Marriott Columbus OSU Ohio Campground Owners Association Ohio Hotel & Lodging Association Ohio Star Theater **Ohio Travel Association Ohio Travel Treasures Ohio Valley Lodging Advisors** Ohio Wine Producers Association **Open-Ended Response** Optimu 777 dba Westin Cleveland Downtown Oxford Visitors Bureau dba Enjoy Oxford Park Hospitality LLC dba Holiday Inn Mansfield Parkside inn Payal Development LLC Pickaway County Visitors Bureau Piyush Bhaidaswala PKH Cambridge Hotel LP Portsmouth-Scioto County Visitors Bureau Put in Bay Transportation, Inc Quality inn

Rabbit Run Theater Ramada by Wyndham Ravenwood Castle, LLC Red Roof Inn & Suites Red Roof Plus **Reeves Museum Regal Hospitality Inc** Renaissance Toledo Downtown Hotel Residence Inn - Fairlawn - RHD Fairlawn LLC Residence Inn by Marriott at Easton RFCW, LLC River Center, LLC DBA Wingate by Wyndham Sylvania/Toledo **Roaming On Travels Rolling Hills Hospitality** Rossford Convention & Visitors Bureau, Inc. Sandusky County Convention & Visitors Bureau Sauder Heritage Inn Sauder Village Sebring Mansion Inn & Spa Sharonville group llc Sidney Visitors Bureau Signature Worldwide SJB Management Inc. SJB Management Inc. SpringHill Suites by Marriott Cincinnati Midtown SpringHill Suites Dayton Beavercreek Stables Inn and Suites Studio Suites by Christopher, LLC Suite Success, Inc dba Staybridge Suites Hotel Summit Ashray Nine, LLC Sunnyside Tower Sunrise Marysville, DBA Marysville Comfort Suites Team Z Marketing LLC The Fulton County Visitors Bureau The Inn at Ohio Northern University The Kenyon Inn Management Company The Lytle Park Hotel The Metropolitan at The 9 The Mount Vernon Grand Hotel The Phelps, a Residence Inn by Marriott The Wallhouse Hotel The Witness Group Tony Packo's & Bennett Management Corp. Towneplace Suites

Tulsi Hotels, LLC Valley View Cabins, Inc Vermilion Chamber of Commerce Victorian Village Guest House Vimla Hospitality LLC Visit Westerville. CVB Westin Cincinnati Whispering Hills Farm B/B LLC WillowBrooke Bed 'n Breakfast LLC Wyandotte Winery, LLC Zippers, LLC