



April 7, 2020

Dear Governor Ron DeSantis,

Today, ahead of the May 1st deadline, we ask that you use your executive authority (s. 252.36, etc.) and cancel or refrain from issuing the **half-a-billion-dollar corporate refunds** (s. 220.1105), issuing emergency executive orders as necessary. This is an urgent request on behalf of our constituents. Immediate action is needed to help small businesses and everyday Floridians weather this economic storm as well as support the fiscal stability of Florida.

Set to go out on May 1st after an April 15th determination by the Department of Revenue, the corporate refund will **not** go to small or even medium-sized businesses. Only 1 percent of all businesses in the state of Florida pay any corporate income tax. These are some of the largest corporations in the country and in the world.

By ending Florida's \$543 million corporate tax giveaway we might instead provide much needed relief to Florida's small businesses and the unemployed. Thousands of small businesses have shuttered their doors and are waiting desperately for what is already delayed state and federal relief. If there is any funding at all currently left in the Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan Program, funds are limited. Providing for the health of the Bridge Loan Program and preserving state funding to invest in benefits for the hundreds of thousands of Florida's unemployed should be our top priorities.

Rather than print, sign and mail checks to the country's largest corporations, please hold back those funds to be used in Florida's response to the public health emergency and economic crisis. Small businesses and their employees are facing delays with both state and federal relief programs. Florida's unemployed residents and small businesses should never be asked to take a backseat to Florida's largest corporations in the midst of an economic crisis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "JR", written in a cursive style.

Senator Jose Javier Rodriguez
Florida State Senate, District 37

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Anna", written in a cursive style.

Representative Anna V. Eskamani
Florida House of Representatives, District 47



Representative Carlos Guillermo Smith
Florida House of Representatives, District 49



Representative Javier Fernandez
Florida House of Representatives, District 114



Senator Victor Torres
Florida State Senate, District 15



Representative Cindy Polo
Florida House of Representatives, District 103



Representative Margaret Good
Florida State Senate, District 72

cc: Florida Department of Revenue