

September 20, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Senate Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Reconciliation - Employee Retention Tax Credit

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader Schumer, Leader McCarthy, and Leader McConnell:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, we write to urge you to solidify 2021 fourth quarter access to the Employee Retention Tax Credit (ERTC) in the final budget reconciliation package.

As passed by the Senate, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act terminates the ERTC three months early making wages paid after September 30, 2021, ineligible for the credit. The Senate has proposed that the bill will be partially paid for with unused COVID funds. The misnomer in that statement is that many small businesses remain in need with the rise of the COVID-19 Delta variant and are counting on these funds for survival.

When the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 was passed in March of 2021, the employee retention credit was originally expanded for wages paid through December 31, 2021. Many businesses have been forecasting with the anticipation for the employee retention credits through the end of December 31, 2021. The need for cash is readily apparent in our industries as more and more businesses continue to struggle. In fact, according to a recent Goldman Sachs survey of more than 1,100 small businesses, 44% of U.S. small businesses have less than three months of cash reserves, leaving them vulnerable to prolonged shutdowns due to the Delta variant.

The ERTC is one of the few financial safety nets available to small businesses during the pandemic and has enabled America's employers to keep employees on the payroll. Cutting off this small business lifeline before the planned deadline would greatly impact businesses fighting to remain open for business, and hard-working Americans employed.

As you consider the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, and craft the reconciliation package, please do not do so on the backs of those who need it most—small businesses. We urge you to ensure access to the final quarter of the ERTC and **make it available through the end of 2021 as previously promised.**

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Robert Jackson with the National Automatic Merchandising Association (NAMA) at rjackson@namanow.org.

Sincerely,



The American Rental Association (ARA) is the largest international trade association for owners of equipment and event rental operations and manufacturers and suppliers of rental equipment. Advancing the equipment and event rental community is the central goal that drives every decision we make as an association. As rental continues to evolve, ARA employees and members are working together to build a strong future for our industry.



Rebranded in 2018 as the American Society of Travel Advisors, ASTA is the leading global advocate for travel advisors, the travel industry and the traveling public. Its members represent 80 percent of all travel sold in the United States through the travel agency distribution channel. Together with hundreds of internationally-based members, ASTA's history of industry advocacy traces back to its founding in 1931 when it launched with the mission to facilitate the business of selling travel through effective representation, shared knowledge and the enhancement of professionalism. For more information about the Society, visit ASTA.org. Consumers can connect with an ASTA travel advisor at TravelSense.org.



The California Automated Vending Council, CAVC, is an organization founded to protect the vending and office coffee service industry in California. Together through lobby days, educational seminars and annual meetings, operators and suppliers work together to better the industry's common good.



Founded in 1883, the Drycleaning & Laundry Institute exists to help thousands of American member drycleaning and laundry business owners learn, work together, and succeed. DLI provides advocacy, education, research, and business forums for its members.



Newly founded in 2021, Elite Catering & Event Professionals (ECEP) is a collaborative network of leading catering, hospitality and food service companies, with members based throughout the United States. ECEP brings together diversified, resilient businesses and their innovative, resourceful leaders in the catering, live events and food service industries, representing more than \$574 million in annual revenue, and employing tens of thousands of workers domestically. With shared purpose and a unified voice, ECEP members are focused on industry education, research and advocacy.



IAAPA is the global association for the attractions industry representing the leading owners, operators, suppliers, manufacturers, and consultants from more than 100 countries. Our members include professionals from amusement parks, theme parks, attractions, water parks, resorts, family entertainment centers, zoos, aquariums, science centers, museums, and cruise lines.



The International Council of Air Shows is a Virginia-based trade association that serves the worldwide air show industry. Founded in 1967, the organization has since become the recognized world leader on a wide range of air show-related issues, including safety, regulatory concerns, industry standards and best practices, interaction with the military, and professional ethics.



The mission of IHRSA, The Global Health & Fitness Association, is to grow, protect, and promote the health and fitness industry, and to provide its members with the benefits that will help them be more successful. IHRSA and its members (health clubs and fitness facilities, gyms, spas, sports clubs, and industry partners) are dedicated to make the world healthier through regular exercise.



International Inbound Travel Association

The International Inbound Travel Association is the nonprofit trade association for the \$230 billion USA inbound travel industry. IITA members include U.S. inbound operators who create and facilitate inbound travel, and their partners DMOs, travel suppliers and industry service providers from across the country.



The Live Events Coalition provides advocacy, resources and a support network that connects our more than 1 million small businesses and 12 million+ workforce.



We are a trade association made up of individuals, partnerships and companies engaged in the business of operating or servicing machines for the vending of merchandise or engaged in coffee services in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Our membership extends to individuals or entities engaged in the selling or servicing of vending or coffee machines, products or equipment.



**Mid-America
Automatic
Merchandising
Association**

Missouri/Kansas - A Regional Council of N.A.M.A.

The mission of the Mid America Automatic Merchandising Association is to promote and protect the common business interests of Convenience Services --Micro Market, Vending, Foodservice and Office Coffee Service and to improve our service to the public. We believe that convenience services should be responsive to and meet the needs of today. Our members are dedicated to providing the best possible products at convenient locations and at reasonable prices. MAMA is

proud of its members and their record of service to the Industry and to the people of Kansas and Missouri.



Founded in 1936, NAMA represents the \$31 billion United States convenience services industry, with its core membership being comprised of owners and operators of vending machines, micro markets, office coffee/tea/water, and pantry services providers. With nearly 1,000-member companies – including many of the world’s most recognized brands – NAMA provides advocacy, education, research, and business forums for its membership. www.namanow.org



Founded in 1951, the National Tour Association is a global association of packaged-travel professionals who serve groups and individuals traveling to, from, and within North America. NTA provides education, advocacy, and business-building opportunities—in-person and online—for its members: tour operators, travel agents, and representatives of the places and experiences that make memorable itineraries. For more information, visit NTAonline.com.

New York State Automatic Vending Association

NYSAVA is a state organization chartered by the National Automatic Merchandising Association (NAMA).



OABA represents some 2,500 members, 200 carnivals, 15 circuses and hundreds of traveling food/game concessionaires in the United States. The vast majority of our members are small, family businesses, many in their second and third generation of ownership. They rely heavily on seasonal labor to supplement their full time staff and to ensure that their operations run smoothly and professionally during their busy months.



The Payroll Group (TPG) is the largest group of independent payroll providers and human resource professionals in the United States. TPG members work with American small and medium sized businesses to meet their payroll and benefit needs.



Pine Tree Vending Association

The Pine Tree Vending Association represents Maine- biased small and medium sized business that provide economic impact of more than \$100 million, over \$27,000,000 in wages, and pays over \$16 million in taxes to the state annually. Our industry represents nearly 700 hardworking Mainers.



SYTA is the non-profit, professional trade association that promotes student & youth travel and seeks to foster integrity and professionalism among student and youth travel service providers. SYTA members travel more than 3 million students a year with 75% in the United States. SYTA Youth Foundation provides scholarships and education for students and youth who cannot afford the cost of travel.



The mission of the Texas Merchandising Vending Association is to promote and protect the common business interests of the vending, foodservice and office coffee service industries, and to improve our service to the public. We believe that vending should be responsive to and meet the needs of today's lifestyles. Our members are dedicated to providing the best possible products at convenience locations and at reasonable prices. The TMVA is proud of its members and their record of service to the Industry and to the people of Texas.



Tri-State is a state council of the National Automatic Merchandising Association (NAMA.) Tri-State AMC seeks to promote and protect the common business interests of the vending, foodservice and office coffee service industries, and to improve our service to the public. We

believe that vending should be responsive to and meet the needs of today's lifestyles. Our members are dedicated to providing the best possible products at convenience locations and at reasonable prices. The Tri-State Council is proud of its members and their record of service to the industry.



USTOA is a professional, voluntary trade association created with the primary purpose of promoting integrity within the tour operator industry. USTOA was founded in 1972 by a small group of California tour operators concerned about tour operator bankruptcies. These founding members recognized the need for a unified voice to protect the traveling public, as well as to represent the interests of tour operators. In 1975, USTOA became a national organization with its headquarters in New York. Today, USTOA Active members represent some of the top names in travel and tourism, and account for a sizeable portion of the tour operator market in North America.

CC: The Honorable Richard Neal

The Honorable Nydia Velazquez

The Honorable Ron Wyden

The Honorable Ben Cardin

The Honorable Kevin Brady

The Honorable Blaine Luetkemeyer

The Honorable Mike Crapo

The Honorable Rand Paul